WISCONSIN MILITARY AND CIVIL MEDALS

by Fred J Borgmann

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Introduction

Welcome to Wisconsin Military and Civil Medals. A quarter of a century has passed since my last effort with this topic and I am sure that all who read this will agree that it was worth the wait. The listings have been vastly expanded and now include more than just the medals earned by our veterans. To help prevent future misattributions both accidental and intentional I have included souvenir medals that were sold to the public to fund celebrations and a monument plus some fobs that were sold at the many summer camps of old. Also included are a few known reproductions in the hope that this information will save beginning collectors more than a few dollars. I have corrected some old mistakes and added some very rare and interesting military and civilian medals in addition to an expanded section of presentation badges. The new order of this catalog begins with the general issues of the Wisconsin National Guard and then explores the issues of the individual units. Next is a listing of some interesting and unusual medals that have been generally ignored until now. Following this is an extensive listing of medals issued for war service. To transition from the military to the civilian sections there is a listing of the University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets (R.O.T.C.) issues and an extensive alphabetical listing of medals from the St. John's Military Academy.

It is gratifying to see how many collectors and historians are still using my first edition and I hope that this new volume will continue that tradition. Through out the book you will see some listings with courtesy lines containing the names of the dedicated collectors who generously provided the information.

Since there are no medals for long and devoted wifely service I dedicate this book to Catharine Elizabeth for her quarter century of love, devotion, companionship and toleration of my compulsive hobby.

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AND CIVIL MEDALS
by Fred J Borgmann

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COVER ART
A colorized copy of the original black and white Fredric Remington drawing depicting a mounted cavalry trooper which Remington presented to Troop A on their twentieth anniversary in 1899. The original was reproduced in fully colorized form and presented to the attendees at the reunion of the 105th Cavalry veterans in 1964.

Wisconsin Military Museums

Anyone interested in military and Wisconsin history will find these museums worth visiting.

Wisconsin Veterans Museum

30 W. Mifflin St.
Madison, WI 53703
608-267-1799
Tues.-Sat. 9am-4:30pm
April -Sept. Sundays noon until 4pm

Free admission

Wisconsin National Guard Museum

101 Independence Dr.
Volk Field
Camp Douglas, WI 54618
608-427-1280
Wed.-Sat. 9am-4pm
Sun. 10am-2pm

This is on an active military base so bring photo ID.

Kenosha Civil War Museum

5400 First Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53140
262-653-4140
Tues.-Sat. 9am-5pm
Sun.-Mon. noon-5pm

Well worth the Admission fee. There is also a first rate general museum next door and a historical society museum close by — both of which are worth the admission price and time to visit.

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WISCONSIN MEDAL OF HONOR

1) WISCONSIN MEDAL OF HONOR, 1982, gold and silver, 48 x 70 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue neck ribbon. Made by Erffmeyer and Son of Milwaukee. Officially only two medals were made; one for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a second for display in Madison at the GAR Museum.
OBVERSE: enameled state seal within a silver laurel wreath. Above the wreath is a silver ribbon inscribed "VAI OR". The entire design is mounted on a radiant gold sunburst with an eagle top.

WISCONSIN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

2) WISCONSIN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL
RIBBON: solid blue, "GRACO-GI" on the ribbon brooch.
MEDAL: gold color 32 mm.
OBVERSE: sunburst design with an engraved Wisconsin State Seal in the center.
REVERSE: "WISCONSIN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL" in three lines above a solid horizontal bar.

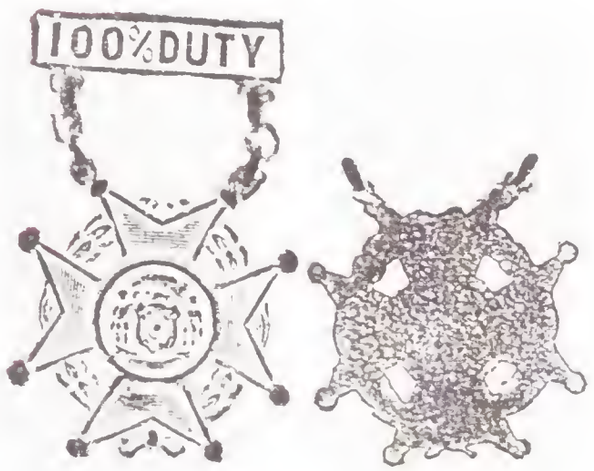
WISCONSIN MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

3) WISCONSIN MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
RIBBON: red and blue divided vertically by a narrow white stripe in the center. "GRACO-GI" on the ribbon brooch.
MEDAL bronze, 32 mm.
OBVERSE: Wisconsin State Seal in the center. Legend: "DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS, WISCONSIN".
REVERSE "WISCONSIN MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL" in three lines above a solid horizontal bar.

WISCONSIN COMMENDATION MEDAL

4) WISCONSIN COMMENDATION MEDAL Ribbon: solid red, "GRACO-GI" on the ribbon brooch.
MEDAL: pewter with antique silver finish, 32 mm.
OBVERSE: Wisconsin State Seal in the center. Legend: "DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS, WISCONSIN".
REVERSE: "WISCONSIN COMMENDATION MEDAL" in three lines above a solid horizontal bar.

100% DUTY CROSS



5) 100% DUTY CROSS, bronze uniface Maltese Cross with ball tips on a laurel wreath, 35 x 35 mm. Suspended from a bronze rectangular brooch, 36 x 7 mm, inscribed "100% DUTY " with two five link chains. Awarded circa 1880-1929. The only known (to me) example belonged to S.G. Yashinitsky, founder of OMSA and was sold by FJP Auctions May 17, 2001, lot #318.

CROSS OBVERSE: Wisconsin State Seal in the center. The cross arms are finely lined as follows: top and bottom horizontally, left and right vertically. The cross is cut-out meaning that there is no metal in the angles of the cross arms between the edges of the cross and the wreath.

REVERSE: blank.

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD LONG SERVICE MEDAL

6) WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD LONG SERVICE MEDAL, bronze uniface six arm radiant cross, 41 mm, suspended by ribbon from an ornamented bronze brooch 40 x 17 mm, inscribed "LONG SERVICE WIS. NAT'L GUARD". Made by the Louis Esser Co. of Milwaukee.

AWARDED FROM: 1903-1955 for 15 years service.
1955-1973 for 10 years service.
1973- in ribbon form only.

RIBBON: red and yellow with two light blue edge stripes. A small bronze diamond shaped ribbon attachment indicates five years of additional service. A small silver diamond shaped ribbon attachment indicates twenty-five years of service.

CROSS OBVERSE: Wisconsin State Seal in the center.

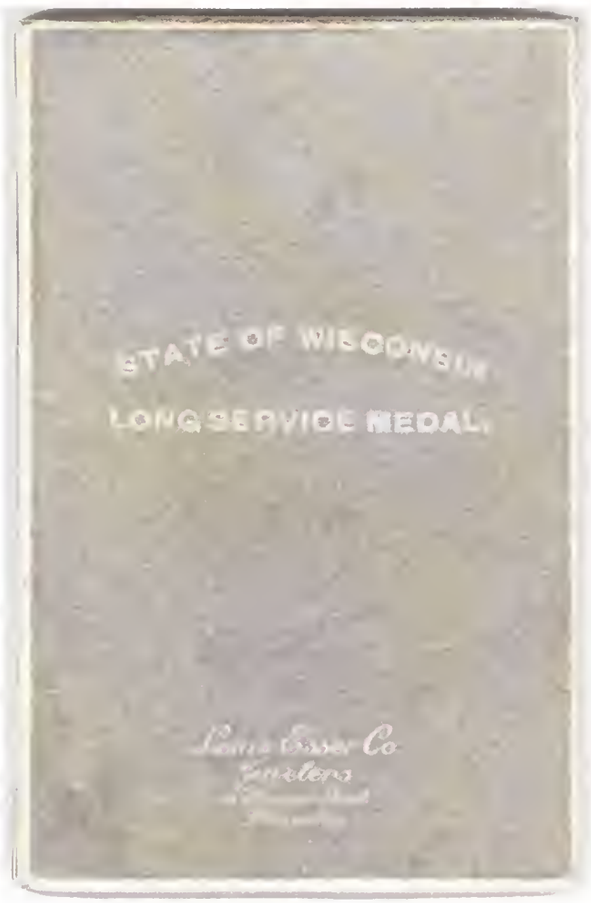
REVERSE: issued blank but can occasionally be found engraved with the recipient's name

VARIATIONS

A) bronze medal and brooch on a three piece ribbon sewn together with each piece being of a separate color.

B) bronze medal and brooch on a one piece ribbon.

C) bronze medal and brass brooch on a one piece ribbon.



Sergeant from Company K, 2ND Regiment proudly wearing his Long Service Medal and the box of issue.

KING MEDAL

7) KING MEDAL, three versions each 32 mm, with a fob type loop, suspended on a ribbon. Awarded 1929-1932 to the Wisconsin National Guard and again in 1942-1945 to the Wisconsin State Guard for perfect armory and camp attendance as follows:
Bronze for one year.
Silver plated bronze for three consecutive years.
Gold plated bronze for five consecutive years
RIBBON: red, white, yellow and red stripes divided by dark blue stripes all of equal width.
MEDAL OBVERSE: portrait right. Legend "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD" and in smaller lettering below the bust "GENERAL CHARLES KING"
REVERSE: six line inscription "PRESENTED IN RECOGNITION OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE" with in a laurel wreath.
General King is considered one of the founding fathers of the Wisconsin National Guard and is also the only man known to have served in both the Civil War and the First World War.
NOTE: The King Medal was the idea of Col. Cyrus C. Yawkey of Wausau who also funded the entire production of the medals. Though privately funded the awards were made solely by the Wisconsin National Guard.

(Note courtesy of the late Bruce C. Cazel, Milwaukee, Wis.)

Charles King circa 1898

WRITE MEDAL

TYPE I OBVERSE

TYPE II OBVERSE

TYPE I REVERSE

TYPE II REVERSE

8) WRITE MEDAL, Type I, bronze, 32 mm, with a fob type loop, suspended on a ribbon
Awarded from circa 1947-early 1950's to enlisted personnel of the Wisconsin National Guard for one year of perfect armory and camp attendance.
Made by Whitehead and Hoag of Newark, NJ

RIBBON: red, white, yellow and red stripes divided by dark blue stripes all of equal width. A small bronze diamond shaped ribbon attachment indicates one additional year of perfect attendance. A small silver diamond shaped ribbon attachment indicates five years of perfect attendance.
MEDAL OBVERSE: portrait left. Legend "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD" and in smaller lettering below the bust "CAPTAIN WALTER H. WRITE".
REVERSE: six line inscription "PRESENTED IN RECOGNITION OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE" with in a laurel wreath.

WRITE MEDAL: Type II, early 1950's-1955, similar to type I but of a lighter color bronze, struck in much higher relief with sharper and deeper details. No indication of the maker, definitely not Whitehead and Hoag.

WRITE MEDAL: Type III, 1955- ribbon only award though the older medals may still be worn.

Walter H. Write as 1ST Lieutenant in 1939

NOTE: Captain Write was the first Wisconsin National Guardsman to be killed in action during World War II, on December 24, 1941 at Bataan.

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD
RIBBON ONLY AWARDS

9) RECRUITING RIBBON, since 1947, for recruiting four or more enlistees during one calendar year. Ribbon: yellow, blue, red and yellow in four equal sections. Ribbon attachments: small bronze diamond for each additional award. Silver diamond for five awards.

10) BERLIN CRISIS RIBBON, for the 1961 federal call up. (Same design as used by many states) Red ribbon with blue edges. In the center are four narrow white stripes divided by three narrower blue stripes. Mounted across the center is a 24 x 4mm bronze attachment inscribed "BERLIN CRISIS".

11) EMERGENCY SERVICE RIBBON, since 1982, for service of three or more consecutive days of state active duty. Ribbon: reddish orange, gold, lavender, gold and reddish orange in five equal sections. Ribbon attachments: small Arabic numbers indicating the number of awards.

12) EISENHOWER TROPHY UNIT CITATION RIBBON, since 1982. Ribbon: blue, white, red, white and blue in narrow equal sections divided by two very thin white stripes all on a blue base ribbon.

13) SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE RIBBON, since 1991 sand color ribbon with black, red, white, blue and green stripes, same as the federal version but with the addition of a bronze 24 x 4 mm attachment inscribed "DESERT STORM"

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

14) MARKSMAN QUALIFICATION BAR, Army Course circa 1880-1906, bronze bar 57 x 10 mm, with "WISCONSIN" between two targets.

POST 1906 MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

15) MARKSMAN BAR, Army Course, bronze bar with "WISCONSIN" from which a silver bar inscribed "MARKSMAN" is suspended by two chains. Size 57mm x 28.9 mm.

16) SHARPSHOOTER BAR, Army Course, bronze bar with "WISCONSIN" from which a silver bar inscribed "SHARPSHOOTER" is suspended by two chains. A cross with a target center is in turn suspended by a chain from the sharpshooter bar. The medal is 57mm wide and 62mm tall.

17) EXPERT BAR, Army Course, silver bar with "WISCONSIN" from which a lower bar inscribed "EXPERT" is suspended by two chains. A cross with a target center is in turn suspended by a chain from the expert bar.

18) MARKSMAN QUALIFICATION BAR, Course "C", circa 1900-1917, bronze 50 x 12 mm, inscribed "MARKSMAN" between two targets above a small apron inscribed "WIS". Size 50 mm x 12 mm.

19) SHARPSHOOTER QUALIFICATION BAR, Course "C", circa 1900-1917, bronze 50 x 12 mm, inscribed "SHARPSHOOTER" (not between two targets) above a small apron inscribed "WIS". Size 50 mm x 12 mm.

20) EXPERT QUALIFICATION BAR, Course "C", circa 1900-1917, bronze 50 x 12 mm, inscribed "EXPERT" between two targets above a small apron inscribed "WIS". Size 50 mm x 12 mm.

PISTOL MARKSMANSHIP BADGES

PISTOL COURSE 1907-

21) MARKSMAN, bronze bar inscribed "PISTOL MARKSMAN"*

22) SHARPSHOOTER, bronze bar inscribed "PISTOL SHARPSHOOTER" with a cross shaped pendant.*

23) EXPERT, bronze pin inscribed "PISTOL EXPERT" with a bronze pendant consisting of two crossed pistols on a laurel wreath.* Up to three bronze date bars could be added to these badges representing the qualification years.

DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS

24) DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS, Type I, circa 1880-1910, silver, 39 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon with a sewn on safety pin.
OBVERSE: each of the top three arms of the cross starting at 9 o'clock has a black enameled initial "W-N-G". The bottom arm was issued blank. The 19 mm applied center disc has three blue enamel figures depicting the seated, standing and prone shooting positions within the inscription "DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN" in a blue enameled field. It should be noted that the blue enamel on many of the Type I crosses has faded and is now speckled orange in appearance.
REVERSE: issued blank but can occasionally be found engraved with the recipient's name.

DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS

25) DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS, Type II, circa 1910 -, silver, 39 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon with a sewn on safety pin.
OBVERSE: each of the top three arms of the cross starting at 9 o'clock has a blue enameled initial "W-N-G". The bottom arm was issued blank. The 19 mm applied center disc has two blue enamel figures depicting the seated and prone shooting positions within the inscription "DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN " in a blue enameled field.
REVERSE: issued blank but can occasionally be found engraved with the recipient's name.

DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS - STATE TEAM

Of those who qualified as Distinguished Marksmen each year the top fifteen shooters became the State Team representing the Wisconsin National Guard at the National Competition. Of the fifteen, the top twelve were the state team proper and the remaining three were the team alternates. State Team members wore their Distinguished Marksman Crosses suspended from a State Team Brooch and these are the versions most often found with additional engraving.

26) DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS Type I, STATE TEAM circa 1880-1910, silver, 39 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from a 48.9 mm wide silver brooch. Engraved "WIS 1894" (Wisconsin Team 1894).
OBVERSE: each of the top three arms of the cross starting at 9 o'clock has a black enameled initial "W-N-G". The bottom arm is engraved with the year "1894". The 19 mm applied center disc has three blue enamel figures depicting the seated, standing and prone shooting positions within the inscription "DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN" in a blue enameled field. It should be noted that the blue enamel on the many of the Type I crosses has faded and is now speckled orange in appearance.
REVERSE: is engraved with the recipient's name, "G. Leonards Sept. 1, 1894".

DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS Type I.
STATE TEAM being worn.

27) DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS Type I, STATE TEAM circa 1880-1910, silver, 39 mm, suspended by two three link chains from a 37 x 9 mm bone shaped silver brooch engraved "STATE TEAM".
OBVERSE each of the top three arms of the cross starting at 9 o'clock has a black enameled initial "W-N-G". The bottom arm is engraved with the year "00" (1900). The 19 mm applied center disc has three blue enamel figures depicting the seated, standing and prone shooting positions within the inscription "DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN" in a blue enameled field. It should be noted that the blue enamel on the many of the Type I crosses has faded and is now speckled orange in appearance.
REVERSE is engraved with the recipient's name, "PRIV. NEWLAND D 3" indicating that Private Newland was a member of the Third Regiment, Company D which was a Mauston unit.

28) DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN CROSS Type I, STATE TEAM circa 1880-1910, silver, 39 mm, suspended by two three link chains from a 38 x 12 mm bone shaped silver brooch. Engraved "STATE TEAM".

OBVERSE: each of the top three arms of the cross starting at 9 o'clock has a blue enameled initial "W-N-G". The bottom arm is not engraved. The 19 mm applied center disc has three blue enamel figures depicting the seated, standing and prone shooting positions within the inscription "DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN" in a blue enameled field. It should be noted that the blue enamel on the many of the Type I crosses has faded and is now speckled orange in appearance.

REVERSE: is engraved, "O.E. RINGELTAUBE, Co. A. 2nd Inf. W.N.G. 1906". Records confirm that Oscar E. Ringeltaube did qualify as a distinguished marksman and was on the state team in 1906.

NOTE: The State Team Medal was established circa 1910 and therefore it is unlikely that any examples of the Distinguished Marksman Cross Type II exist that were suspended from a State Team brooch.

STATE TEAM NATIONAL MATCH MEDAL

29) STATE TEAM NATIONAL MATCH MEDAL, Circa1910-1915, made by the Louis Esser Company of Milwaukee. The medal is suspended from a silver brooch by two one link chains. A maximum of 15 medals could be made in any one year since the medal was awarded only once; the first time a shooter qualified for a position on the state team and went to the National Match. For subsequent qualifications a date bar identical to the brooch was added to the medal. The qualifications did not have to be for consecutive years.

BROOCH silver, 32.4 mm wide, rectangular frame with a beaded border and two partially squared off top loops. Each brooch is inscribed with the words "WISCONSIN TEAM" above the year.

MEDAL silver oval, 32 x 58 mm.

OBVERSE standing shooter under an arched ribbon inscribed with the words "NATIONAL MATCH".

REVERSE initially engraved with "PRESENTED TO" above the recipient's name, rank and unit and "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD" in six lines.

VARIOUS MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

mentioned in various W.N.G. Adjutant Generals Reports.

30) FALK MEDAL : circa 1905-1907 for the highest skirmishing score. Details unknown

31) ZWIETUSCH MEDAL: circa 1903-1906 for the highest aggregate slow fire score. Details unknown.

32) WISCONSIN MEDAL: circa 1905 for the highest total 300 and 600 yard slow fire score. Details unknown.

33) BADGER MEDAL: circa 1905-1911 for the highest total 200 and 500 yard slow fire score. Details unknown.

34) GOLD MEDAL: of the Wisconsin National Guard Officers Association, 1907-1908 for the highest aggregate score. After 1908 this award became a gold pocket watch. Details unknown.

35) HOLWAY DIAMOND BADGE: circa 1905-1913, an officers award for the distance estimating competition. Details unknown.

HOLWAY DIAMOND MEDAL

36) HOLWAY DIAMOND MEDAL : 1913-1939, awarded for the highest aggregate score in rapid fire at all distances. Total size: 80 mm tall and 49 mm wide. This multi-piece gold medal was made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee, and was sponsored and originally presented by Brigadier General Orlando Holway who was the W.N.G. Adjutant General from October 1, 1913 until February 3, 1923.
BROOCH: Defiant eagle facing left perched on an ornamented rectangular bar engraved with the name "HOLWAY". Pin back reverse.
MEDAL: gold, three piece construction, suspended from the brooch by two three link chains. The outer most piece is a ring, the bottom half of which is a laurel wreath with large berries. The top half consists of cut out ornamentation. Next inside the outer circle is a plain three sided gold circle with four mounting eye brackets on which the center gold disc is mounted. On this center disc are two crossed swords with small amethyst stones mounted on the sword handles at 10 and 2 o'clock. Across the center of the crossed swords is a horizontal rectangular bar with ornamented edging. Two one carat diamonds are mounted at 12 and 6 o'clock. There are no inscriptions on either side.

(Courtesy Eric Lent, Site Curator, Wisconsin National Guard Museum)

BOARDMAN MEDAL

The BOARDMAN MEDAL (1931-1941) was presented by the Wisconsin Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars and is named in honor of Brigadier General Charles R. Boardman who was W.N.G. Adjutant General 1897-1913 and also the first commander of the 64th Brigade. The medal was awarded annually to the shooter with the highest aggregate score in the competition for places on the State Rifle Team. Each winner had the honor of possessing the medal until the next competition when it had to be returned. The medal became the permanent property of anyone who won it three times.

This award is a two medal award; the first medal, which is retained by the Wisconsin National Guard, has slightly curved gold bars suspended from the bottom of the medal. Total size: 120.65 mm tall and 70 mm wide. These bars are engraved with the winners name and the year he won on the obverse and his rank and unit on the reverse. The second medal which is without bars like those suspended from the first medal, was presented to the annual winner.

Both medals were made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee.

RIBBON: yellow with red and blue edge stripes. The red stripe being on the outside.

MEDAL OBVERSE: gold eagle superimposed on a red enamel eight pointed star with golden rays in the angles between the points. At the top is a small gold horizontally oval laurel wreath. The entire badge is mounted within a dark gray laurel wreath on which two gold rifles are vertically mounted in an upright position at 9 and 3 o'clock. At the bottom are the words "BOARDMAN MEDAL." in gold letters in a black enamel field. Below that are the words "HIGHEST COMPETITIVE SCORE" in gold letters in a red enamel field. Below this are the suspended gold bars with the winner's names.

MEDAL REVERSE: an anchor on two crossed swords in the center on a red enamel field within a blue enamel circle containing the motto "DEUS ET LIBERTAS" in gold letters. At the bottom of the wreath is a large gold base with the incuse inscription "PRESENTED BY THE MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS FOR HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORE IN RIFLE COMPETITION AT CAMP WILLIAMS WIS.". Suspended from that are the gold bars with the winner's rank and unit.

(Courtesy Eric Lent, Site Curator, Wisconsin National Guard Museum)

FORTRIE MEDAL

The example pictured here is being worn by a Company Quartermaster Sergeant from Company M, 2nd Infantry W.N.G., possibly J. Gerhard of Oconto. He is also shown wearing an army sharpshooter badge and the Pomeroy - Graham Medal.

38) FORTRIE MEDAL: circa 1888-?, a marksmanship award described as "the most coveted shooting prize for many years" which was donated by John L. Mitchell of Milwaukee as one of the prizes at Camp Philip Reade (more recently Camp Williams) in 1888.

The medal is a large round ornamented medal with the name "FORTRIE" along the top. The rest of the design is currently unknown. This medal is suspended by two five link chains from an oval medal with a badger mounted on the top. The rest of the design is also unknown. This oval medal in turn is suspended by two seven link chains from a very ornate brooch with a large stone mounted in the center

POMEROY - GRAHAM MEDAL

39) POMEROY - GRAHAM MEDAL - marksmanship award, silver. This appears to be a round medal that looks like it could be a machined silver dollar with the engraved inscription "PRESENTED BY COL. GRAHAM SEPT. 19TH, 1902". The medal is suspended by two rings from a brooch that appears to be another machined silver dollar which was then cut in half and engraved "POMEROY" above what may be the number "628".

The example pictured here is being worn by a Company Quartermaster Sergeant from Company M, 2nd Infantry W.N.G., possibly J. Gerhard of Oconto. He is also shown wearing an army sharpshooter badge and the Fortrie Medal..

Pomeroy was Captain Hugh E. Pomeroy of Company G, 2nd Infantry, W.N.G. Col. George Graham of Tomah, was the W.N.G. Inspector of Small Arms Practice until 1906. Col. Graham, who was known as the father of rifle practice in Wisconsin and was also a Civil War Veteran. He enlisted in Company I of the 37th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Nov. 1, 1863. Shortly after he transferred to Company G as First Sergeant. Next he was detached on extra duty with the Third Corps as an Ordinance Sergeant. On Sept. 8, 1864 he transferred to the non-commissioned staff as a Sergeant Major eventually mustering out July 24, 1865 as a Captain. Nearly twenty years later on April 28, 1884 Graham was commissioned a Captain in Company K, 3rd Infantry W.N.G.

PISTOL PRACTICE PRIZE CROSS

40) PISTOL PRACTICE PRIZE CROSS: awarded for the Pistol Practice Dismounted Course which was an annual competitive event between Troop A, of the 1st Cavalry and Battery A, of the 1st Regiment Field Artillery, both rival Milwaukee units. The award exists in a first and second prize version. Each prize was determined by a fixed regulation score and every shooter that achieved that score got the appropriate prize cross resulting in the possibility of multiple awards per event.
The cross is brass, 35 x 35 mm. Two crossed revolvers mounted on the obverse with the recipient's unit engraved above and below the revolvers. The reverse has a circular target design with the engraved words "CAMP DOUGLAS" and the year. The cross is suspended by a ring from a 32 mm wide bronze bar engraved with "FIRST" or "SECOND PRIZE" above "PISTOL PRACTICE" on the obverse and the recipient's name on the reverse. This bar is suspended by two rings from a 36 mm wide brooch engraved "WISCONSIN".

UNDOCUMENTED MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS

It is possible that the following medals are from the Sixth Corps Area Rifle Matches in which case these bronze medals would be third place awards.

41) 1925, bronze six sided medal 30.6 mm wide, suspended by two chains from an ornamented bronze brooch engraved with the name "H. L. BENTRUP".
OBVERSE: target above crossed rifles which in turn are above a shield with the engraved date "1925". The shield rests in a partial wreath.
REVERSE: machine engraved "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD" in three lines. At the very bottom are two small circles containing the incuse letters "R" and "S".

42) 1926, bronze cross, 26.4 mm, suspended by two chains from a 29 mm bronze brooch engraved with the name "H. L. BENTRUP".
OBVERSE: crossed rifles and wreath with an applied target center.
REVERSE: engraved date 1926 in the center above "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD" machine engraved in three lines. Below in small letters is "WCo" and "BRONZE".

FEDERAL MARKSMANSHIP BADGES WITH W.N.G. INSCRIPTIONS

43) EXPERT RIFLEMAN

REVERSE: engraved "1-ST REGT INF. W.N.G.". This piece was also named on the reverse of the brooch but unfortunately the name was removed by some misguided person.

National Guardsmen were also eligible to earn Federal marksmanship qualification badges and some times had the reverses engraved with their names and W.N.G. unit.

W.N.G. ATHLETIC PRIZE MEDALS

Athletic Field Days became part of the annual summer camps during the early 1900's. To promote physical fitness and competitive pride the following track and field events were staged:

- 100 Yard dash
- 220 Yard dash
- 440 Yard run
- 880 Yard run
- One mile run
- Shot put
- Hammer throw
- Running broad jump
- Running high jump
- Pole vault
- Discus throw
- 880 Yard relay race in which each company would field a four man team with each man running 220 yards.

To boost morale three classes of prize medals were established for each event :

- First place in gold finish
- Second place in silver
- Third place in bronze

The obverse of each medal would depict the event and the reverses were left blank for engraving purposes which ideally (but not always) would include the event and date.

CAMP ERNST

44) CAMP ERNST FIELD DAY 1903, silver plated bronze medal, 38.9 mm x 41.25 mm.
OBVERSE: cut out design of a shield resting in an open laurel wreath. At the top is a bar engraved with the event name. This event bar is above two rifles forming a wide "V". Across the center of the shield is the four line inscription "CAMP ERNST FIELD DAY 1903 1ST REGT W.N.G."
REVERSE: blank
The only examples known to this author are for the 100 yard dash and the high jump and both are 1st regiment medals. Therefore this medal could be a 1st regiment only medal.

CAMP DOUGLAS

45) CAMP DOUGLAS FIELD DAY OVAL PRIZE MEDAL

Third Prize, bronze, 28 mm x 42 mm, suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Josten's of Owatonna, Minn.

OBVERSE: enameled red arrow in a circle with inscription "W.N.G. FIELD DAY CAMP DOUGLAS" all within a laurel wreath above a rectangle containing a depiction of the event for which the medal was awarded.

REVERSE: blank with makers mark at the bottom and usually engraved with the date and event. In this case "7-27-23, 3rd PLACE, RUNNING BROAD JUMP." Another example for the Half Mile Relay event depicts two relay runners on the obverse and the reverse inscription " 7-24-25, 3rd PLACE, HALF MILE RELAY."

46) CAMP DOUGLAS FIELD DAY OVAL PRIZE MEDAL

Second Prize, sterling silver, 28 mm x 42 mm, suspended from a red, white and blue satin ribbon. Made by Josten's of Owatonna, Minn.

OBVERSE enameled red arrow in a circle with inscription "W.N.G. FIELD DAY CAMP DOUGLAS" all within a laurel wreath above a rectangle containing a depiction of the event for which the medal was awarded.

REVERSE blank with makers mark at the bottom and usually engraved with the date and event. In this case "7-24-24, 3rd PLACE, BROAD JUMP."

47) GOLD, First Place medals of this design must be assumed to exist.

CAMP DOUGLAS FIELD DAY RECTANGULAR PRIZE MEDAL

48) Second Prize, sterling silver, 18 mm x 33 mm, suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Josten's of Owatonna, Minn.

OBVERSE: enameled red arrow in a circle with inscription "W.N.G. FIELD DAY CAMP DOUGLAS" all within a laurel wreath below a rectangle containing a depiction of the event for which the medal was awarded.

REVERSE: blank with makers mark at the bottom and usually engraved with the event. In this case 100 and 200 dash events.

CAMP McCOY

49) CAMP McCoy (FIELD DAY) RECTANGULAR PRIZE MEDAL
First Prize, gold filled, 18 mm x 33 mm, suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Josten's of Owatonna, Minn.
OBVERSE: an empty laurel wreath below a rectangle containing a depiction of the event for which the medal was awarded.
REVERSE: blank with makers mark at the bottom and usually engraved with the event. In this case "SA CAMP McCOY 1927". The meaning of the "SA" is unknown at present.

RED ARROW CAMP

50) RED ARROW CAMP PRIZE MEDAL, Third Prize, bronze irregular shape, 28 mm x 40.8 mm on a red ribbon. Made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee
OBVERSE: enamel red arrow at the top above a rectangle depicting an athlete, in this case a runner which is superimposed on a forest and log cabin scene. Two line inscription along the bottom "AWARD RED ARROW CAMP"
REVERSE: blank with makers mark at the bottom

Wisconsin National Guard Unit Medals

By unit names, regiment numbers and company letters.

Membership in the early local named Militia and National Guard units was often a matter of social pride. Many of the units had lapel buttons and badges which would be worn on civilian clothing by unit members and veterans. Therefore I have compiled the following list of unit names to help with attributions.

Wisconsin Militia and National Guard Company Names 1846 - 1894

NAME	CITY	DATES
Ahnepee Militia Co.	Ahnepee	1866
Alma Rifles	Alma	1868
American Rifles	Milwaukee	July 24, 1875 -1877
Appleton Light Inf.	Appleton	Oct. 27, 1881
Ashland Rifles	Ashland	Sept. 24, 1889
Badger State Rifles	Milwaukee	April 29, 1889
Bay City Light Guard	Green Bay	Dec.1, 1874
Bayfield Rifles	Bayfield	Feb. 5, 1873
Beaver Dam Guards	Beaver Dam	Oct. 4, 1880
Beaver Dam Light Guards	Beaver Dam	1869
Belle City Guards	Racine	May 8, 1871-winter of 1872-1873
Beloit City Guards	Beloit	Aug. 31, 1877
Black Jagers	Milwaukee	1854
Black Jagers	Milwaukee	Oct.13, 1870 - 1871
Bower City Rifles	Janesville	Aug. 18, 1878
Burchard Guard	Beaver Dam	Oct. 4, 1880
Chapman Guards	Milwaukee	April 30, 1889
City Artillery	Milwaukee	1846
City Guards	Racine	1852-1856 or 1857
City Rifle Co.	Milwaukee	1854
Cream City Guards	Milwaukee	July 26, 1867-1875
Custer Rifles	Whitewater	July 7, 1877
Darlington Rifles	Darlington	July 8, 1881
Darlington Guard (Name change?)	Darlington	1884
Delavan Volunteers	Delavan	1869
Delavan Guard	Delavan	April 27, 1880
Eau Claire City Guard	Eau Claire	Feb. 11, 1875
Eau Claire Light Guards	Eau Claire	June 30, 1885 - May 13, 1889
Emmett Guards	Racine	1852-1856 or 1857

Bennett Zouaves	Milwaukee	Oct. 21, 1872 - 1876
Evergreen City Guard	Sheboygan	Nov. 4, 1874-Nov. 24, 1877
First Light Battery	Milwaukee	May 11, 1885
First Regt. Wis. Vol. Militia	Milwaukee	1870 - 1874
Fond Du Lac Guard	Fond Du Lac	April 9, 1880
Garfield Guard	Racine	Aug. 30, 1881
Gateway City Guards	La Crosse	Dec. 28, 1892
Germania Guard	Milwaukee	Aug. 8, 1871-1876
Germania Light Guard	Wausau	Jan. 10, 1875
Governor's Guard	La Crosse	Aug. 1, 1873
Governor's Guard	Madison	Mar. 24, 1875
Governor's Guards	Racine	1851- 1856 or 1857
Green County National Guard Co.	Monroe	1866
Griffin Rifles	Eau Claire	Oct. 20, 1888
Guppey Guard	Portage	June 25, 1877
Hoard Rifles	Ft. Atkinson	April 25, 1889
Hudson City Guard	Hudson	June 18, 1887
Janesville Guards	Janesville	Aug. 5, 1878
Janesville Light Inf.	Janesville	Dec. 1, 1887
Juneau Guard	Milwaukee	Sept. 14, 1872-1877
Kalmbach Rifles	Ft. Howard	Feb. 12, 1876
Kosciusko Guard	Milwaukee	Sept.2, 1874-Aug.24, 1877
La Crosse Light Guard	La Crosse	Aug. 13, 1878
Lake City Guards	Madison	May 27,1879
Lancaster Light Artillery	Lancaster	1867
Lene City Rifles	Beloit	Aug. 31, 1877
Light Horse Squadron	Milwaukee	April 27, 1880
Lincoln Guard	Milwaukee	May 2, 1881
Ludington Guard (Cavalry)	Menominee	Nov. 2, 1876
Manitowoc Volunteers Militia Co.	Manitowoc	July 18, 1869
Marinette Guards	Marinette	May 1, 1889
Marshfield Light Inf.	Marshfield	Sept. 25, 1889
Mauston Light Guard	Mauston	Aug. 31, 1869-Oct.11, 1875
Mechanic Zouaves	Milwaukee	Oct. 9, 1869 - 1870
Merchant Zouaves	Milwaukee	June 4, 1869 - 1870
Milwaukee Artillery	Milwaukee	1854
Milwaukee Cadets	Milwaukee	1869 - 1875
Milwaukee City Dragoons	Milwaukee	1860
Milwaukee City Guards	Milwaukee	1848 ? - 1854
Milwaukee City Rifle Co.	Milwaukee	1854
Milwaukee Dragoons	Milwaukee	1847 - 1858
Milwaukee Light Artillery	Milwaukee	April 23, 1870-1879
Milwaukee Light Guard	Milwaukee	1855 -?
Milwaukee Light Guard Battalion	Milwaukee	1857 - ?

Milwaukee Light Guard	Milwaukee	Dec. 8, 1867 - 1876
Milwaukee Riflemen	Milwaukee	1845 - 1850 ?
Milwaukee Veteran Corps	Milwaukee	April 15, 1867 - 1869
Milwaukee Volunteer Corps	Milwaukee	1867
Milwaukee Zouaves	Milwaukee	July 11, 1868 - 1874
Monroe City Guard	Monroe	Mar. 30, 1882
Monroe Light Battery	Monroe	1868
Mounted Artillery Co.	Milwaukee	1846 ?
National Guards	Milwaukee	1854 - 1855
Oconto Centennial Rifles	Oconto	May 2, 1889
Oshkosh Guards	Oshkosh	Mar. 25, 1876
Oshkosh Rifles	Oshkosh	April 8, 1880
Pepin County Guards	Arkansaw	July 18, 1879
Platteville Light Artillery	Platteville	1869
Prison City Guards	Waupun	June 26, 1885
Pulaski Guard	Milwaukee	May - Aug. 1879
Racine Light Guard	Racine	April 6, 1881
Randall Guards	Darlington	May 11, 1878
Rankin Guard	Manitowoc	Dec. 29, 1881
Richland Center Light Artillery	Richland Center	1867
Ripon Rifles	Ripon	Mar. 28, 1877
Rusk Guard	Milwaukee	Oct. 29, 1888
Sheridan Guards	Milwaukee	June 23, 1869
Sherman Guards	Neilsville	Mar. 15, 1875
South Side Turner Rifles	Milwaukee	June 20, 1879
Sparta Rifles	Sparta	Sept. 27, 1883
Tomah Guards	Tomah	May 28, 1884
Trojan Vol. Battery	Troy	1869
Turner Rifles	Milwaukee	June 5, 1874
Union Guards	Milwaukee	1855
Union Sarsfield Guards	Milwaukee	1854 - 1855
Unity Guards	Unity	1881
Vernon County Vol's. (Cav.)	Vernon County	1868
Washington Artillery	Milwaukee	1856
Washington Guards	Milwaukee	Jan. 1845
Washington Guard	Milwaukee	May 5, 1871-1873
Watertown Rifles	Watertown	July 7, 1880
Wausau Light Guard	Wausau	Dec. 30, 1882
Wisconsin State Rifle Co.	Milwaukee	1856

EVERGREEN CITY GUARD (Sheboygan)

51) EVERGREEN CITY GUARD VETERAN CORPS, 1898, bronze five arm cross suspended on an American Flag ribbon from an ornamented bronze brooch.
BROOCH: 44.4 mm wide, has a liberty cap above crossed rifles with an unfurling ribbon inscribed "EVERGREEN CITY GUARD VETERAN CORPS".
MEDAL: bronze five arm cross, 46.9 mm. Wisconsin arms in center. Defiant eagle with flag at top.
This medal appears to be the result of a group of Civil War veterans and the former members of the old 1870's Evergreen Guard making a patriotic gesture in support of the Spanish-American War.

52) EVERGREEN CITY GUARD VETERAN CORPS, 1919, combination 50th anniversary and WWI victory medal, 35.4 mm x 74.9 mm, bronze, oval, suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon with a bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab Stamp and Seal of Milwaukee.

MEDAL OBVERSE: Defiant American Eagle on shield and crossed rifles dividing the dates 1869 and 1919 above a circle inscribed "50th ANNIVERSARY EVERGREEN CITY GUARD VETERAN CORPS AUG. 21, 1869"

REVERSE: blank.

FIRST LIGHT BATTERY (Milwaukee)

53) FIRST LIGHT BATTERY, members badge circa 1885-1910, real gold and black enamel wheel with two crossed ramrods suspended from a gold cannon barrel brooch. Total size 26 mm x 31 mm, weight 5.14 grams. Made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: legend "FIRST LIGHT BATTERY W.N.G." on the wheel and a small red ruby or garnet stone set in the wheel's center.

REVERSE: blank with "B&U" hallmark in the center.

INTERSTATE ARTILLERY CONTEST PRIZE MEDAL

54) INTERSTATE ARTILLERY CONTEST PRIZE MEDAL of 1901 was won by Battery A (First Light Battery) of the Wisconsin National Guard in the contest between Minnesota and Wisconsin National Guard Artillery units. The medal is in the form of a five arm radiant cross suspended from a brooch with two three link chains. Made by J.K. Davison of Philadelphia.

MEDAL obverse, two crossed cannons over a circle in the center. The circle is inscribed "INTERSTATE MINN WIS". The upper cannon is inscribed "ARTILLERY CONTEST".

REVERSE is engraved in three lines "WON BY BATTERY A WISCONSIN, LAKE CITY, MINN. 1901".

Battery A had a 58 man roster.

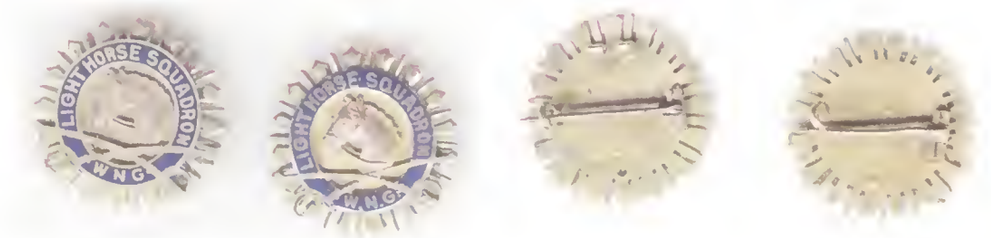
Minnesota won the rematch at Camp Douglas in 1902. A third match was planned but never came to pass.

(Courtesy Jeffrey B. Floyd)

LAKE CITY GUARD (Madison)

55) LAKE CITY GUARD Veterans Commemorative Lapel Badge, 1884, gold, 22 mm, 3.65 grams. Maker unknown.
OBVERSE: silver badger mounted in the center. Outer legend "LAKE CITY GUARD MADISON WIS.". Inner legend "Co. C 4TH BAT. W.N.G. 1879-1884"
REVERSE: engraved "A.G. PARK".
The Lake City Guard did not survive as a unit when the Wisconsin National Guard was reorganized from a Battalion system to a Regimental system.

LIGHT HORSE SQUADRON (Milwaukee)



56) LIGHT HORSE SQUADRON, members lapel badge, size range 24.2 - 24.6 mm, 6.89 grams, gold plated copper radiant disc upon which is mounted a blue enamel circle with two crossed sabers extending through the lower third of the circle. Inscribed with gold letters in the blue enameled field of the circle is "LIGHT HORSE SQUADRON" above the sabers and "W.N.G." below. Within the center of the circle is a real gold horse head facing left.
REVERSE: is marked "Bunde & Upmeyer, Milwaukee" and has a hinged pin.
The Light Horse Squadron which later became Troop A of the W.N.G.'s First Cavalry was a very elite Milwaukee unit that was formed in 1880 to be an honor guard for visiting dignitaries at a Milwaukee Civil War Veterans reunion. To support the unit the original members actually paid dues which exceeded their Wisconsin National Guard pay!

57) EIGHT HORSE SQUADRON One Mile Prize Cross, 1893. Gold eight point cross and brooch. Total weight 9.52 grams. Made by the Bailey and Esser Company of Milwaukee.

BROOCH: ornamented gold, 43.7 mm wide, engraved "WM. MARNITZ".

CROSS OBVERSE: engraved borders and flourishes on each arm. The Eight Horse Squadron emblem in the form of the lapel badge is mounted on the center of the cross.

CROSS REVERSE: makers mark "BAILEY & ESSER CO. MILWAUKEE" in the center with "THIS 1 MILE PRIZE" engraved above and "JAN. 28, 1893" engraved below.

58) EIGHT HORSE SQUADRON PRIZE DRILL 1896 badge, silver, 43.8 mm x 41.1 mm, 11.5 grams, maker unknown.

OBVERSE: a cast ornamented oval ring inscribed "PRIZE DRILL ETS 1896" is mounted on a smaller oval center creating a raised outer ring around a sunken center. Mounted in the center is a plumed helmet above two crossed sabers. Mounted below the sabers is gold plated horse head facing left.

REVERSE: blank.

59) LIGHT HORSE SQUADRON GOLD CROSS, gold total weight 17.11 grams. Maker unknown. Fred W. Cords was the original recipient of the example illustrated here. The reason for the award is uncertain due to the lack of inscriptions on the medal or any mention of it in the Light Horse Squadron's Twentieth Anniversary history book. It is thought that this medal was issued for the unit's service as Wisconsin Governor Peck's escort during his visit to the Columbian World Exposition dedication ceremonies in 1892.

BROOCH: 55 mm wide pin back with a plumed helmet on a crossed sword and carbine rifle.

CROSS: also has a pin back but is suspended from the brooch by two eight link chains. The cross base has a double layer red gold and yellow gold wreath mounted around the center. Inside the wreath is a red gold ring around a yellow gold disc. The disc is engraved with a left facing blackened horse head.

SHERIDAN GUARD (Milwaukee)

60) SHERIDAN GUARD MEMBER MEDAL. Gold, unmarked, total size including brooch 30.7 mm x 34.8 mm. The medal which looks like a compass rose is suspended from an ornamented gold brooch by one loop.
BROOCH "MILWAUKEE" in gold letters on a blue enamel field.
MEDAL OBVERSE a back pack with the letter 'A' in blue enamel within a dark blue enamel circle inscribed "SHERIDAN GUARD 1869" in gold letters. Two crossed rifles below the back pack separate the date from the rest of the inscription and extend to the outer edge of the medal.
REVERSE blank with the engraved name "W.H. PERTHESIUS".
The Sheridan Guard eventually became Company A of the Wisconsin National Guard's Fourth Regiment.

UNION GUARDS (Milwaukee)

61) UNION GUARDS BEST SHOT MEDAL 1858, silver 48mm, 36.2 grams with a specific gravity of 10.14 indicating a silver fineness of nearly .800 fine. Holed at the top which is probably as issued. Suspension unknown

OBVERSE: allegorical seated woman and standing boy. Signed "BRAENT F." at the bottom.

REVERSE: engraved "Presented by the Commissioned Officers of the Milwaukee Union Guards as being the Best Shot, Oct. 25, 1858" in six lines.

The Union Guards was an Irish unit from Milwaukee's third ward organized July 16, 1855. The unit had 74 men and in 1858 was commanded by Capt. Garret Barry, a West Point graduate and Mexican War Veteran totally loyal to the Union and anti-slavery. The question of states rights came up in Wisconsin when the State Supreme Court ruling in favor of Sherman M. Booth was over turned by the United States Supreme Court and Sherman was placed under arrest. Sherman was a "conductor" on the Underground Rail Road and aided a run away slave in violation of the Fugitive Slave Act. The Wisconsin State Legislature then passed a resolution calling upon Governor Randall to use force to free Booth. In response to the governor's inquiry Capt. Barry stated that the unit would not answer the governor's call to arms against the Federal Marshals. Gov. Randall then ordered the Union Guards disarmed and disbanded. In response the Union Guards with Barry still in command re-organized as an independent unit and went on an equipment fund raising excursion to Chicago on the steam ship Lady Elgin. While on the return trip in bad weather the Lady Elgin was rammed by the Schooner "Augusta" and sank on Sept. 8, 1860 taking the lives of over 400 people including the entire Union Guards contingent.

62) FIRST INFANTRY 40 CONSECUTIVE DRILLS MEDAL, copper, 29 mm x 59 mm total size. Made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee circa 1880. Cross shaped medal suspended from a brooch with two three link chains.
BROOCH: copper, eagle perched on crossed rifles on top of a rectangular frame. Some of the brooches have a makers mark on the reverse.
MEDAL OBVERSE: square cross design with leaves in the corners. State arms in the center within the inscription "40 CONSECUTIVE DRILLS 1ST INF. W.N.G."
REVERSE: blank

63) FIRST INFANTRY COMPANY "A" BEST DRILLED NON COM. OFFICER Silver, 26.35 mm x 42.4 mm. Made by Wendell's of Minneapolis dating this piece from 1882-1900. The entire brooch and medal design is cut out and engraved
BROOCH: very ornamented with the engraved words "Best Drilled" in script
MEDAL: shield on crossed rifles under an arched ribbon suspended from the brooch by two rings. The arched ribbon is engraved "NON-COM-OFFICER" and the shield is engraved "CO. A 1ST INF. W.N.G." in three lines.
REVERSE: is blank with "WENDELL" in a long six sided frame at the bottom.

Company "A" was a Janesville unit

64) FIRST INFANTRY COMPANY D Gold Marksmanship Medal, total size 36mm wide by 56mm tall. Weight 7.1 grams. Probably made by the E. H. Warnke Company of Milwaukee.

BROOCH: gold, ornamented arched ribbon with blank name space above the engraved rank "PRIVATE". Reverse: blank.

MEDAL: gold, shield shaped target flanked by hanging laurel sprigs. Mounted on the medal are the initials "WNG" in one piece above another mounted piece consisting of two crossed rifles with "Co D 1" in the top three angles of the crossed rifles.

REVERSE: blank.

Since nothing is known about this medal it must be assumed to be a first prize medal since it is gold and that it was awarded only to shooters with the rank of private since that rank was engraved before the medal was awarded.

65) FIRST INFANTRY COMPANY D, HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORE Medal, gold, total size 64mm wide by 106mm tall. Weight 34.47 grams. Made by E. H. Warnke Company of Milwaukee which is best known for their production of gold presentation badges from the 1890's to the late 1940's.

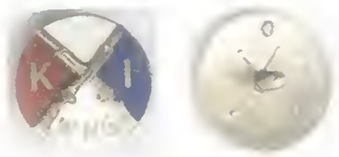
BROOCH gold, 64mm wide by 40.8mm tall. Defiant eagle perched on crossed rifles facing left with a small gold rectangular target suspended from the center of the crossed rifles. Reverse: makers mark.

MEDAL yellow and red gold, 51.8mm in diameter, suspended by two gold five link chains from the rifle butts of the brooch. The design consists of an outer red gold ornamented circle flanked by two green gold laurel sprigs which is engraved "HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORE" which frames an inner yellow gold disc center. Mounted on the center disc is a multi-color enameled monogram made up of a dark blue number "1", a red "Co" and a light blue "D".

REVERSE blank

66) FIRST INFANTRY COMPANY 'F' Members lapel button, bronze 18.4 mm. screw back.

OBVERSE: two crossed rifles across the center. Gold color eagle above the number one in the top quarter and an 'F' above "W.N.G." in the bottom quarter.



67) FIRST INFANTRY COMPANY 'K' Members lapel button, bronze 18.4 mm. screw back. Obverse: two gold color crossed rifles across the center. Gold color letters and trim. Top quarter plain white enamel. Bottom quarter with "W.N.G." on white enamel. Left quarter 'K' in red enamel and right quarter with the number '1' in blue enamel.

(Courtesy Tom Casper)

68) SECOND INFANTRY COMPANY A, GALLERY PRACTICE Medal 1906, gold, total size 38mm wide by 74mm tall, weight 18.4grams. Gallery practice was the winter time in door training with .22 caliber rifles.

BROOCH: gold, a heraldic eagle perched on crossed rifles. A small enameled target is suspended from the trigger guards of the crossed rifles. Reverse: blank.

MEDAL: suspended by two five link gold chains from the brooch. The medal consists of a yellow gold disc engraved with a "Co A" monogram for Company A. The disc is encased in a gold collar within a laurel wreath. The collar is inscribed "GALLERY PRACTICE 2ND REGT. W. N. G." in black enamel letters.

REVERSE: blank.

The medal illustrated here was originally won by Oscar F. Ringeltaube of Marshfield, who also earned a Distinguished Marksman Cross and a position on the State Team in 1906.

69) SECOND INFANTRY COMPANY "I". 1st Prize Marksmanship, gold medal and brooch, total size 26.3 mm x 46.6 mm, weight 6.41 grams. Both medal and brooch appear to be made from rolled gold and the design is entirely engraved except for the enamel target.

REVERSE: uncommented and engraved "1ST PRIZE"

MEDAL: suspended from brooch by two three link chains. Obverse design has a raised enamel target in the center on two crossed rifles. The target is on a pedestal and the entire design is partially within an arched ribbon which is inscribed with the outside "W.N.G." at 9, 12 and 3 o'clock. The pedestal is engraved "Co. L. 2ND INF." in two lines.
REVERSE: blank

THIRD INFANTRY

1906 Version and 1915 Version (which is missing it's letter B pendant)

70) THIRD INFANTRY COMPANY 'B' "GOVERNOR'S GUARD" (La Crosse) 1906 Ten Year Service Cross. The entire award is made of four pieces: brooch, company letter, suspension bar and cross, all of which look gold but are probably gold plated or gold face. Maker unknown.

CROSS: 32.7 mm, with three point arms. Each arm has a textured surface within a thin black enamel border. The top three arms each have one of the letters "W.N.G." in black enamel. The bottom arm has the recipient's enlistment date in black enamel. The cross center has a large hole over which is mounted a blue enamel ring with the inscription "DEFENDAM LAX G.G." in gold letters. Mounted on the ring is the cut out number '3' behind which is a red card circle filling the background hole. The cross is suspended from a suspension bar.

SUSPENSION BAR: 23 mm wide is inscribed "10 YEARS SERVICE" in black enamel letters and has a wider eagle with spread wings perched on top. The suspension bar is suspended by two three link chains from the brooch.

BROOCH: ornamented, 35.5 mm wide and engraved with the recipient's name. Suspended from the center of the brooch is the gold cut out company letter 'B'. By 1915 the basic design elements remain the same. However the following changes should be noted. The formerly black enamel lettering order has changed and now is blue and the size is slightly larger. The cross is 32.8 mm wide. The suspension bar is suspended by two five link chains and is 31.3 mm wide. The brooch is 36.2 mm wide

71) HONOR FOUR NUMBER 3 (Tomah) marksmanship prize medal. Gold, 14 karat, 30.4 mm, 4.12 grams. Entire design and inscriptions on both sides are engraved
OBVERSE: eagle perched on crossed rifles and laurel branches above a "WNG" monogram (Wisconsin National Guard). Above the eagle and at it's sides is the inscription "HONOR FOUR N. 3 Co. K 3RD REG.
REVERSE: a coiled ribbon inscribed "WON IN COMPETITION MAY 28TH '87". Local newspaper accounts report that Tomah's Company K (Third Infantry W.N.G.) in celebration of their third anniversary invited the Mauston light Guards (Co. D, 3rd Inf. W.N.G.) to a marksmanship competition. The competition consisted of three events: 200 yards off-hand, 500 yards prone and 50 feet indoors. Since no mention of the medal was found it is assumed that the top shooter in each event was to get a gold medal. The 200 yard event however ended in a two man tie score there by resulting in four medals being awarded for the three events which may explain the "HONOR FOUR N. 3" inscription.

FOURTH INFANTRY

72) FOURTH INFANTRY COMPANY "B" KOCIUSKO GUARD (Milwaukee)
COLUMBIAN WORLD'S EXPOSITION SERVICE MEDAL 1892.
This is an elaborate multi piece cut out and engraved gold award. Total size is 39.3 mm wide and 81.4 mm tall. Weight 8.51 grams. Maker unknown.
MEDAL: shield shaped suspended by two three link chains from a suspension bar.
OBVERSE: full color enameled United States Shield mounted in the center with "4TH INF" engraved above and "W.N.G." below.
REVERSE: engraved "KOCIUSKO GUARD FAIR OCT. 30 TO NOV. 9 - 92 PRESENTED TO CONSTANTINE MATUSZEWSKI" in five lines of script. Suspension bar consists of two crossed rifles with bayonets and two crossed guidons. On top of the rifle muzzles are the letters "C" and "B" for Company B. The crossed rifles cross through the number 4 standing for fourth infantry regiment and the guidon flags are engraved with the letters "K" and " G" for Kosciuszko Guard. The suspension bar is suspended from the brooch by two three link chains.
BROOCH: ribbon shaped and engraved "FORWARD" which is Wisconsin's motto.
The Columbian Exposition Building dedications started in October of 1892 with many state governors doing the honors for their state buildings. Wisconsin Governor Peck was escorted by the Kosciusko Guard, the Milwaukee light Horse Squadron and Company D from Darlington. Citizens groups helped raise the money to fund the troopers travel expenses.

NOTE: That the spelling of the name "Kociusko" as found on the medal has changed in modern times to "Kosciuszko".

The Kosciuszko Guard is probably somewhere in this parade picture.

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD VETERANS LADDER AND SHIELD BADGES

WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD Veterans Ladder and Shield Badges were a tradition carried over from the Civil War era that continued until the First World War. The badges are all private purchase items and not official issues. It is safe to assume that these badges exist for every WNG unit in times of peace as well as in times of active duty like the Spanish-American War and the Mexican Border Duty call up. What follows is a random sampling of existing types .

TWO BARS AND SHIELD TYPE

73.1) 4TH WISCONSIN CO. F, (Milwaukee) 1896, nickel plated bronze. Top bar "CO. F". Second bar "4" WIS." Shield "NAT'L 1896" above crossed rifles and "GUARD" above soldier's name below.

THREE BARS AND SHIELD TYPE

73.2) 1ST WISCONSIN CO. D, (DARLINGTON) 1897, nickel plated bronze. Top bar "CO. D". Second bar "1ST REG.". Third bar " DARLINGTON". Shield "WIS" above crossed rifles and "N. G." above 1897 and soldier's name below.

EAGLE TOP SHIELD TYPE

74) SEPARATE BATTALION Co. B, (Reedsburg) 1899 nickel plated bronze. Shield inscribed with soldier's name and town above "Co. B. 10 S.B. WIS. N.G. 1899" which is above two crossed rifles, an American flag and "CAMP McARTHUR." The Separate Battalion consisted of companies beyond the capacity of Wisconsin's four regiments but yet not numbering enough to make up a fifth regiment.

SHIELD SUSPENDED FROM EAGLE TOP BROOCH

75) 2ND WISCONSIN Co. E (Fond du Lac) 1902 nickel plated bronze. Shield inscribed with soldier's name and town above "CO. E 2" INF., WIS. N.G. 1902" above two crossed rifles, and an American flag.

HEART SHAPE PENDENT WITH BAR BROOCH TYPE

76) 1ST WISCONSIN Co. B (Ft. Atkinson) 1898, Spanish-American War, heart shape pendent suspended from brooch. Copper-nickel-zinc, 22 mm x 26.5 mm.
BROOCH: inscribed "CO. B"
PENDENT: inscribed "1ST WIS. U.S.V. INF. F.W. ROBINSON FT. ATKINSON" above an American Flag and 1898.
The Wisconsin National Guard units volunteered en masse in 1898 and were designated as United States Volunteer Infantry or "U.S.V. INF."

(Courtesy Rance Hulshart)

CROSS SHAPE PENDENT WITH BAR BROOCH TYPE

77) 2ND WISCONSIN Co. M (Oconto) 1901.

BROOCH- inscribed "C.O. M"

PENDENT- crossed rifles in center, inscribed "2" REGT. WIS. N. G. OCONTO, WIS." down the center of the cross. The date "AUG. 3" 1901" is on the right arm and two soldier's names are on the right arm indicating that the buddy system was firmly established at that time.

MANEUVERS FOBS AND SOUVENIRS

Since many medals have fob-like loops there is a continual state of confusion when it comes to the attribution of an item as a medal or a fob. The fact that some of the original medal recipients replaced the original ribbons of their medals with leather straps and actually used them as fobs has also added to the incorrect attributions so frequently encountered For the purpose of this book the original intent of the issuer rules. If a medal was issued on a ribbon then it is listed as a medal regardless of any subsequent and unofficial alterations. The same holds true for fobs. To help clarify the issue, this section contains some examples of known Wisconsin National Guard fobs. All were privately manufactured and sold to soldiers during summer camps, maneuvers and at reunions.

All maneuvers badges and fobs are private purchase souvenirs.

78) WAR MANEUVERS 1910, souvenir badge, silver washed bronze, total size of medal and brooch is 37 mm x 58 mm. The medal has an encased 18 mm gold plated medal in the center and is suspended from a brooch by two rings. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

BROOCH: an eagle perched on two crossed rifles above the words "WAR MANEUVERS".

MEDAL OBVERSE: standing soldier with rifle in center within legend "CAMP BRUCE E. McCOY 1910 SPARTA, WIS.".

REVERSE: The lords Prayer in the center in tiny letters and maker's name above

79) WAR MANEUVERS 1910, watch fob, nickel plated bronze 36 mm x 39.3 mm round disc on crossed rifles and laurel wreath. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: standing soldier dividing the date 19-10 within the legend "WAR MANEUVERS SPARTA WIS."
REVERSE: blank with makers name.

80) ARMY MANEUVERS 1910, watch fob, nickel plated bronze, 34 mm x 41.8 mm, shield shaped. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: soldier with rifle standing between two tents. Inscription "ARMY MANEUVERS CAMP BRUCE E McCOY" at top and "SPARTA WIS. AUGUST 1910" below.
REVERSE: blank with makers name.

81) JOINT MANEUVERS 1912, watch fob, silver plated bronze 37 mm x 41 mm. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: soldier with rifle standing between two tents. Inscription "JOINT MANEUVERS SPARTA WIS. JULY - AUGUST 1912".
REVERSE: blank with makers name.
Joint Maneuvers of 1912 included the Wisconsin and Iowa National Guard.

82) WAR MANEUVERS 1912, souvenir badge, silver washed bronze, total size of medal and brooch is 37 mm x 58 mm. The medal has an encased 18 mm gold plated medal in the center and is suspended from a brooch by two rings. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.
BROOCH: an eagle perched on two crossed rifles above the words "WAR MANEUVERS".
MEDAL OBVERSE: standing soldier with rifle in center.
REVERSE: The lords Prayer in the center in tiny letters and maker's name above

83) ARMY MANEUVERS 1914, souvenir badge, bronze shield shaped medal suspended from a suspension bar and brooch. Total size 39.4 mm wide and 81 mm tall. Made by H.H. Stratton of Chattanooga, Tenn.
This medal has a fob like loop and is suspended by two five link chains from a bronze suspension bar inscribed "SPARTA, WIS. 1914" which in turn is suspended by two rings from a bronze brooch inscribed " ARMY MANEUVERS".
MEDAL OBVERSE: an eagle with a ribbon inscribed "OUR COUNTRY'S DEFENDERS" perched on a red, white and blue soft enamel shield.
REVERSE: blank.

84) FIRST INFANTRY Company G key chain pendent or watch fob, bronze 24 mm x 48 mm. Made by the Lincoln Manufacturing Works of Boston.
OBVERSE: five line inscription "Co. G 1ST WIS. INFANTRY"
REVERSE: checkered design with maker's name in a rectangle near the top.

85) THE BRULE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD MEDAL

Northern Wisconsin has been a vacation destination for a long time. Many of the rich and famous found it a good place to beat the heat. One famous visitor was President Calvin Coolidge. Coolidge is best remembered for his statement that "The business of America is business." He also liked to take long vacations and stayed at an estate on the Brule River known as Cedar Island from June to September 1928. Besides doing a lot of fishing, the Coolidges took part in many local activities like picnics, rodeos, mine tours and attended church services regularly. When a President travels it is always a major event. Coolidge's entourage reportedly included 10 Secret Service agents, 14 servants, 75 press reporters plus 90 soldiers of the Third Infantry Regiment from Fort Snelling, Minn. Local sources state that medals where given to the soldiers of the Presidential Guard by the city of Brule. Local history records the guard as 60 men but regimental records list 90 men who served on Presidential Guard Duty that summer and break that number down by the companies from which the men were drawn. The guard unit may have been sixty men at any one time but over that long period of time there must certainly have been a number of replacements. Therefore I will stick with the regimental records and estimate that 90 medals may exist.

The medal is silver plated pewter with an antiqued finish, 33.45 mm, has a fob type loop and is suspended on a red ribbon.

OBVERSE- Third Infantry Regiment crest in an open wreath. Above the crest is the inscription "THE PRESIDENT'S GUARD" and below the crest is the date 1928.

REVERSE- seven line inscription divided by a naming ribbon. Above the ribbon "SUMMER WHITE HOUSE BRULE WISCONSIN" and below the ribbon "MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S GUARD JUNE - SEPTEMBER 1928."

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

86) Milwaukee Journal Military Achievement Awards:
A) Wisconsin Army National Guard 1964-1982.
B) U.S. Army Reserve 1964-1982.
C) Wisconsin Air National Guard 1972-1982.
D) U.S. Marine Corps Reserve 1972-1982.
E) U.S. Air Force Reserve 1972-1982.
F) U.S. Naval Reserve 1972-1982.
G) U.S. Coast Guard Reserve 1972-1982.
Each medal is gold plated bronze, about 49 mm in diameter and encased in a lucite block 76 mm x 76 mm with a thickness of 25 mm and was issued with an oak pedestal with the recipient's name rank and service branch. Made by Erffmeyer and Son of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: helmeted soldier facing left. Legend "FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT" above and the recipient's branch of service below.
REVERSE: star above four line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL TO" followed by the engraved recipient's rank, name, unit and date in three lines below.
NOTE: there may be design variations for other years. The illustrated example was issued in 1966.

STATE GUARD

The Wisconsin State Guard is a reserve organization that usually exists only on paper as a list of names. The names are of volunteers who are mostly too young and too old for active military service. The State Guard is only activated when the National Guard has been federalized during times of war. While activated the State Guard may not be sent out of the state and while activated the system of National Guard medals applies to the State Guard.

Shortly after WWII the Milwaukee Journal provided some marksmanship awards for the State Guard. These awards appear to be part of a larger state wide competition to which a State Guard section or division was added.

87) THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL STATE GUARD RIFLE TEAM medal, 1946, bronze 32 mm x 37 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from a bronze brooch in the shape of a double ribbon. The top ribbon is engraved " STATE GUARD " and the bottom ribbon is inscribed "WISCONSIN" in raised letters. Two bars are attached to the cloth suspension ribbon. The upper bar has the word "THIRD" and the lower bar has the word "TEAM."

MEDAL OBVERSE: an eagle perched on a U.S. shield with an extended wing above the incuse date 1946. The date in turn is above a tombstone shaped outline containing two crossed rifles below a target. Along the bottom edge is the incuse inscription "THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL ".

REVERSE: blank.

88) THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL STATE GUARD marksmanship medal, 1947, bronze irregular shaped rectangular medal, 24.9 mm x 38.6 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon and brooch.

BROOCH DESIGN: an arched ribbon with the words "STATE GUARD" engraved above "WISCONSIN" which is in raised letters. Two bars are attached to the cloth suspension ribbon. The upper bar has the engraved word "FOURTH" and the lower bar has the word "AGGREGATE," in raised letters.

MEDAL OBVERSE: target above an eagle perched on two crossed rifles. Engraved below is "THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL '47".

REVERSE: blank.

WISCONSIN PERRY'S VICTORY CENTENNIAL MEDAL, 1913

89) WISCONSIN PERRY'S VICTORY CENTENNIAL MEDAL, 1913, bronze 38.3 mm, suspended on a blue ribbon from a rectangular brooch with "WISCONSIN" in a frame.

Designed by the Chicago Art Institute and struck at the Philadelphia Mint.

OBVERSE: a war ship under full sail firing a broadside divides the date 18 - 13 above the words "DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP" all under an arch of eighteen stars.

REVERSE: five line inscription "THE WISCONSIN PERRY'S VICTORY CENTENNIAL MEDAL 1913" in the upper half of a full wreath.

Often found with military medals this medal was given to members of the Wisconsin Perry's Victory Commission and to the Wisconsin National Guard Volunteers who took part in the uniformed ceremonies. According to the Wisconsin Adjutant General's Report of 1914, the Wisconsin Legislature, Chapter 675 Laws of Wisconsin 1913, appropriated $8000. to enable the W.N.G. and Naval Militia to participate in the Perry's Victory Centennial celebrations. This appropriation precluded any payment to the troops that volunteered for this duty. Even so two provisional regiments of infantry each consisting of nine companies plus Troop A and Battery A and a Sanitary Detachment participated in the Milwaukee ceremonies, Aug. 6, 1913, under the command of Brig. General Charles King. In Green Bay an infantry regiment of twelve companies plus a military band and hospital corps under the command of Col. F.W. Gruetzmacher participated in the Green Bay ceremonies on Aug. 13, 1913.

According to the Milwaukee Sentinel, May 13, 1913, gold versions were made to be awarded as prizes in a state wide Perry's Victory school essay competition

War Service Medals & Badges

Civil War

All Wisconsin Civil War related medals and badges are private issues. There were no official Wisconsin Civil War issues. Even the Federal Government did not issue a Civil War service medal until 1905. Wisconsin Civil War medals and badges can be divided into three main categories:

Reenlistment Medals usually on the company level issued by an officer to the men who reenlisted after their first short term enlistments expired.

Unit Medals which are very well made and were usually purchased by veterans groups as a whole.

Individual Soldiers and Veterans Badges, the so-called "Ladder Badges" which individual soldiers started buying to supplement their Corps Badges even before the Civil War had ended. The early badges do not carry the war dates 1861-65 and are much more valuable than the post war versions which do carry the war dates. This type of badge became traditional wear for all veterans at reunions until the First World War.

The Civil War related Individual Soldiers and Veterans Badges are listed here by types based on my observations and using my terminology.

900 LADDER BADGE, four bars, basic design with blue back ribbon and tassel
Company H, 2ND Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, early version, (missing tassel.)

91) LADDER BADGE: four bars, fancier design with more ornamentation and notches, blue back ribbon and tassel.
Company H, 24TH Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, early version missing back ribbon.

92) LADDER AND SHIELD BADGE: two bars above shield
Company D, 1ST Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, post war version with dates.

93) SUSPENDED SHIELD BADGE: bar brooch above shield.
Company B, 3RD Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, very early locally made version with mounted safety pin on reverse.

94) SUSPENDED STAR BADGE: bar brooch above five pointed star.
Company G, 31ST Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, early version.

Civil War Veterans Medals

95) Sixth Wisconsin Battery Veterans Medal, diamond shaped copper square, 43 mm, uniface, suspended on a red ribbon from a copper brooch.
MEDAL OBVERSE: "6TH WIS. BATTERY" arched above a cartridge box in the center with crossed cannons and six stacked cannon balls below.
BROOCH: rectangular with a rope border framing the arrow insignia of the Seventh Army Corps.
RIBBON: red, inscribed with the unit's battle credits in gold letters:

Island No. 10
Siege of Corinth
Battle of Corinth
Port Gibson
Willow Springs
Raymond
Jackson
Champion's Hill
Siege of Vicksburg
Mission Ridge
Nashville

96) BERDAN'S SHARPSHOOTERS (Company G) veterans medal, copper cross, 40 mm, suspended on a dark green ribbon from a copper brooch 38 mm x 8 mm. No makers mark.

CROSS OBVERSE: two crossed rifles over a laurel wreath. In each of the four angles of the crossed rifles is an army corps emblem. Legend inside the wreath "BERDAN'S U.S. SHARPSHOOTERS".

REVERSE: blank with an engraved name. In this case the name "C. A. Stevens" was Charles A. Stevens of Wisconsin's Company G.

BROOCH: copper, raised border frames the dates "1861 *(five point star) 1865".

Berdan's Sharpshooters, Sept. 23, 1861 to Sept. 22, 1864, was an organization of two regiments of "tried marksmen" with at least one company from each of the loyal states. Company G was Wisconsin's company. The only way to determine the company of origin of these medals is to check the records for the name engraved on the reverse. Records show that Sergeant Charles A. Stevens was promoted to Second Lieutenant July 29, 1862, First Lieutenant Sept. 26, 1862 and was wounded at Cold Harbor June 3, 1864. The unit mustered out Sept. 22, 1864 at which time Stevens reenlisted with Company D of the 49th Wisconsin Infantry.

The term "sharpshooter" originates from Berdan's Sharpshooters since they were equipped with the Sharps Rifle.

REPRODUCTION

WARNING

Numerous modern reproductions exist of this medal. Copies generally have a very flat appearance and are marked "TSCO MILWAUKEE" on the reverse.

97) IRON BRIGADE veterans medal, five arm cross of blackened iron, 36 mm. suspended on a red ribbon from a rectangular copper brooch 38 mm x 8 mm

CROSS OBVERSE: USV monogram (U.S. Volunteers) in the center within a circle containing the words "IRON BRIGADE". Each of the cross arms is inscribed with one of the brigade's five regiments; 2nd , 6th, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan.

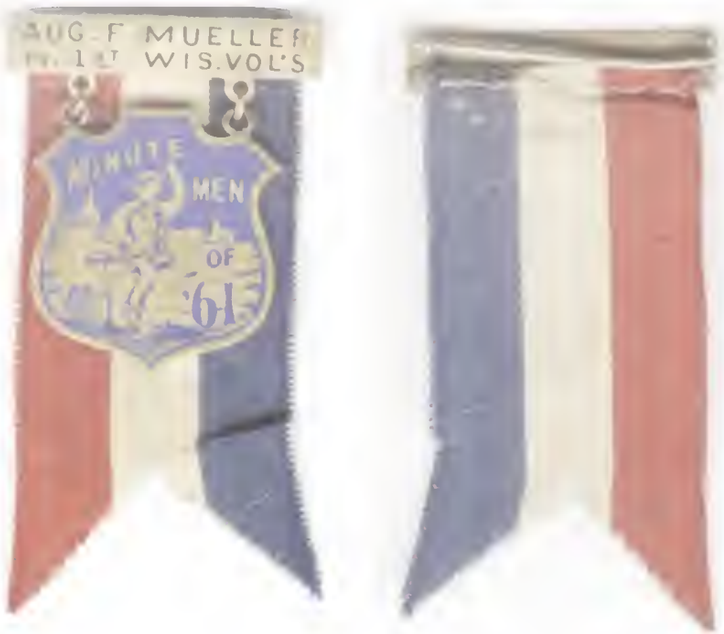
REVERSE: blank. The older versions have the maker's names "G. BRACKMAN, MAIDEN LANE, NEW YORK" or "J. K. DAVISON, PHILA." A later version, 1880's -1900, does not have a maker's name.

BROOCH: raised border frames two straight laurel branches tied together at the center with a bow tied ribbon.

REPRODUCTION

WARNING

Numerous modern reproductions exist of this medal. Most copies have crosses made of bronze and have the wrong brooch or just a hinged pin. All are marked "FSCO MILWAUKEE" on the reverse. These reproductions were (and maybe still are) being sold by the Wisconsin Veterans Museum across the street from the Wisconsin State Capital building in Madison for 15.00.



98) MINUTEMEN OF '61 veterans medal, brass and blue enamel shield 30 mm x 34 mm, suspended by two rings from a rectangular brooch 37 mm x 7 mm with a red, white and blue backdrop ribbon.

SHIELD: Brass landscape scene with an armed citizen rushing to answer the call to arms against a blue enamel background. The drum on the ground is inscribed "APRIL 15, 1861."

BROOCH: two line inscription "AUG. F. MUELLER, H. 1ST WIS. VOL'S" in black enamel letters.

The illustrated example is named to August F. Mueller of Company H, First Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers. The First Regiment was a ninety day enlistment regiment of ten companies which filled Wisconsin's quota of volunteers called for by president Lincoln in his proclamation of April 14, 1861. Company H was formerly known as the Milwaukee Riflemen of the state militia. Mr. Mueller reenlisted in Co. A of the twenty-sixth regiment as a first lieutenant.

99) THIRD WISCONSIN INFANTRY Veterans Star Badge, red enamel and gilt brass, 32.4 mm x 31 mm, marked "SCHWAAB STAMP & SEAL CO. MILWAUKEE & CHICAGO" which dates this badge 1887-1888.

OBVERSE: gilt brass numbers and letters "1861 3D WIS. INF." in three lines

REVERSE: blank with makers name

100) FIFTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, straight sided bronze cross, 41 mm, with a black enamel center in a red enamel field. Suspended by one ring from a slightly curved bronze brooch with straight ends inscribed "5TH WIS. VOL. INF. 1861-5".

(Courtesy John A. Peterson, Jr.)

101) EIGHTH WISCONSIN INFANTRY, Company B (1864) reenlistment medal, silver 40 mm, 32.59 grams, holed for suspension.

OBVERSE: legend "PRESENTED TO EACH VETERAN SOLDIER OF CO. B. 8 WIS. VOL. VET. INF." around a six line inscription below a small eagle in the center, "FOR BEING THE LARGEST VETERAN CO. IN THE EAGLE REG. BY THEIR REC'TL COM'DR J.W. JEFFERSON."

REVERSE: battle scene in the center. Inscriptions: top center "IUKA CORINTH 3 & 4 OCT.", bottom center "VICKSBURG SIEGE & ASSAULT MAY 22". Legend "FREDRICKTOWN NEW MADRID & ISLAND No 10 FARMINGTON SIEGE CORINTH."

(Courtesy Marc J. Storch)

102) ELEVENTH INFANTRY Company B (1864) reenlistment medal, silver, five arm cross on a wide hinged loop with a totally engraved design.
OBVERSE: Wisconsin arms in center. Each of the arms has an ornamental rope border design enclosing the engraved inscription beginning on the top arm and continuing clockwise "PRESENTED TO COMPANY B ELEVENTH REGIMENT WISCONSIN VETERAN VOLUNTEERS BY COL. C.L. HARRIS FOR THE SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM MANIFESTED IN THEIR UNANIMOUS REENLISTMENT AS VETERANS."

103) ELEVENTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS veterans medal, canteen shaped copper 35 mm, suspended on a light blue ribbon from a copper brooch 48 mm x 9 mm.
MEDAL OBVERSE: portrait of General and later president Grant facing left.
REVERSE: round cross emblem of the Sixteenth Army Corps.
RIBBON: inscribed with the unit's battle credits in gold letters:
BROOCH: raised rim framing "11TH WISCONSIN VOLS."

Bayou Cache
Port Gibson
Jackson
Champion's Hill
Big Black River
Siege of Vicksburg
Siege of Jackson
Fort Esperanza
Spanish Fort
Blakely
Mobile

104) ELEVENTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS reunion medal, bronze medal and brooch on blue ribbon.

MEDAL OBVERSE: block house. Legend and inscription "RAILROAD DEFENSE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND BLOCK HOUSE 1864."

REVERSE: inscribed "COMPLIMENTS OF COL. & MRS. A.L. CONGER IRVING LAWN, AKRON, O. AUG. 22, 1888 ANNUAL REUNION."

BROOCH: raised rim framing "11TH WISCONSIN VOLS."

This medal was listed as lot 197 in the April 16, 1997 FJP Auctions sale.

105) FIFTEENTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY veterans medal, bronze oval medal suspended from a brooch with a dark backdrop ribbon and a heraldic U. S. Eagle.

MEDAL OBVERSE: crossed cannons on war trophies in the center. The dates 1861-1863 are on the top cannon. Legend "UNITATE VETERA NORUM UNTO." Makers name "A. DEMAREST, NEW YORK" at the bottom.

REVERSE: inscribed "O.A.RISUM 15TH WIS. VOLS. INFTY. ISLAND No 10, STONE RIVER, CHICKAMAUGA, MISSION RIDGE, ATLANTA" all within a border of stars.

Otto Axel Risum was from Spring Valley, Wis. and enlisted in Company G on Oct. 16, 1861 as a veteran with the rank of sergeant. He was promoted to sergeant major Jan.1, 1864 and adjutant Sept. 24, 1864. He mustered out Feb. 10, 1865.

The Fifteenth Regiment was known as the 'Scandinavian Regiment' and had a majority of Norwegians.

(Courtesy Leonard Meyer and the Rock County Historical Society)

106) WISCONSIN SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR Service Medal, bronze 33 mm, made by the Louis Esser Jewelry Company of Milwaukee. Suspended on a ribbon with the American colors of red, white and blue in the center flanked by the Spanish colors of red and gold.

This medal was not authorized until 1917 and then only to Wisconsin National Guardsmen who were not shipped overseas and therefore did not qualify for the Federal Spanish War Service Medal.

MEDAL OBVERSE- an eagle perched on war trophies with "WISCONSIN SOLDIER" above and "WAR WITH SPAIN" in two lines below. Thirteen stars ornament the rim along the bottom half.

REVERSE- Wisconsin coat of arms in the center above the date 1898 and between two laurel branches.

EDGE- issued plain but can be found engraved with the original recipient's name and unit.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE

107) WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD MEXICAN BORDER Service Medal, bronze 34 mm, made by Louis Esser Jewelry Company of Milwaukee.

MEDAL OBVERSE: three palm trees in a desert landscape. Legend "WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD BORDER SERVICE".

REVERSE: large star above the dates 1916-1917 and between two laurel branches.

RIBBON: Type A: has a bright red center stripe within two white stripes and two light green edge stripes.

Type B: has a rose color center stripe between two dark green stripes and two lemon yellow edge stripes. The reason for the color variation of type B is unknown and may be an error.

Unfinished examples of this medal without a loop are also known.

Envelope of issue for Spanish American War and Mexican Border Service Medals

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE LOCAL ISSUE MEDALS

Wisconsin National Guard Unit Home Stations 1916-1917

At this time fourteen of these cities are known to have issued Mexican Border Service Medals. It would not be unreasonable to expect that more medals may be discovered in the future.

Appleton
Ashland
Beaver Dam
Beloit
Chippewa Falls
Eau Claire
Fond Du Lac
Ft. Atkinson
Green Bay
Hudson
Janesville
La Crosse
Madison
Manitowoc
Marinette
Marshfield
Mauston
Menasha
Menomonie
Milwaukee
Monroe
Neenah
Neillsville
Oconomowoc
Oconto
Oshkosh
Portage
Racine
Reedsburg
Rhinelander
Rice Lake
Ripon
Sheboygan
Sparta
Superior
Tomah
Viroqua
Wausau
Whitewater

108) APPLETON MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, bronze (not silver washed) 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide bronze
brooch, made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 174 men.
OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD". Above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.
REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF APPLETON, WIS. TO THE MEMBERS OF FIELD & STAFF HEADQUARTERS CO. CO.G & SANITARY DETACHMENT SECOND WIS. INFANTRY MARCH, 1917."
BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

109) BEAVER DAM MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 65 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD". Above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF BEAVER DAM, TO THE MEMBERS OF COMPANY K, 2ND WIS. INFANTRY MARCH 1, 1917" all within a laurel wreath..

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

110) EAU CLAIRE MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 86 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: seven line inscription "MEMBER OF COMPANY E 3RD WISCONSIN PRESENTED BY CITIZENS OF EAU CLAIRE, WIS. DEC. 1916".

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

111) FOND DU LAC MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 42 mm. suspended without a ribbon from a rectangular 38 mm wide bronze brooch with a naming space above the words "FOR MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE." Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark N.J. Company rosters list 127 men.

MEDAL OBVERSE heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "-U.S. -NAT'L GUARD". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE eleven line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.TO COMPANY E 2ND REG'T N.G.U.S. 1916-1917 FOR MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE".

(Courtesy John Leng)

112) GREEN BAY MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 39 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF GREEN BAY TO MEMBERS OF SUPPLY COMPANY 2ND WIS. INFTY. MARCH 1, 1917".

113) COMPANY G FIRST WISCONSIN INFANTRY (Madison) MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE fob, bronze 24 mm x 45 mm. Made by Lincoln Manufacturing Works, Boston.

OBVERSE: five line inscription "CO. G. 1ST WIS. INFANTRY"

REVERSE: small leaf design background upon which is an eagle topped scroll inscribed " MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE 1916" in four lines. At the bottom is a small rectangle with "LINCOLN MFG. WKS. BOSTON".

Since the city of Madison is not known to have issued a medal for service on the Mexican Border this piece is most likely a private purchase item

(Courtesy Jeffrey B. Floyd)

[114] MENASHA-NEENAH * MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 91 men of which approximately 32 men lived in Menasha.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIES OF MENASHA-NEENAH, TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY I, 1ST WIS. INFTY. JAN. 30, 1917" all within a laurel wreath.

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

* Both of the neighboring cities of Neenah and Menasha where the home town of Company I. The rivalry between the two cities was so intense that neither city would consent to the other's name being listed first on their medal. Therefore two versions of this medal were issued: one had the names as Menasha-Neenah and the other as Neenah-Menasha. Based on their respective population numbers approximately 32 of the unit's 91 men lived in Menasha and 59 of the unit's 91 men lived in Neenah.

115) MILWAUKEE MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a dark blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 924 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: five line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF MILWAUKEE, 1916" all within a laurel wreath..

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

116) NEENAH-MENASHA * MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 91 men of which approximately 59 men lived in Neenah.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIES OF NEENAH-MENASHA, TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY I, 1ST WIS. INFTY. JAN. 30, 1917" all within a laurel wreath.

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

* Both of the neighboring cities of Neenah and Menasha where the home town of Company I. The rivalry between the two cities was so intense that neither city would consent to the other's name being listed first on their medal. Therefore two versions of this medal were issued; one had the names as Menasha-Neenah and the other as Neenah-Menasha. Based on their respective population numbers approximately 32 of the unit's 91 men lived in Menasha and 59 of the unit's 91 men lived in Neenah.

117) OCONTO MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 42 mm with fob type loop, assumed to have been suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 81 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD". Above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: seven line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF OCONTO TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY M 2ND WIS. INFTY. MARCH 6, 1917" all within a laurel wreath.

118) OSHKOSH MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 222 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY CITIZENS OF OSHKOSH TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FIELD STAFF, NON COM. STAFF AND Co's BAND F. 2ND INFANTRY W.N.G. 1917."

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

119) RIPON MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch inscribed "D 2ND WIS." within a raised edge frame. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 89 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: seven line inscription "PRESENTED BY CITY OF RIPON TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY D 2ND WIS. INFANTRY MARCH 16, 1917" all within a laurel wreath.

120) SHEBOYGAN MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 41.25 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 86 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD", above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED BY CITIZENS OF SHEBOYGAN TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY C 2ND WIS. INFTY MARCH 7, 1917" all within a laurel wreath

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

121) WAUSAU MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, silver washed bronze 42 mm, suspended on a satin red, white and blue ribbon from a plain rectangular 38 mm wide silver washed bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. Company rosters list 84 men.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle perched on a ribbon inscribed "U.S. NATIONAL GUARD". Above the eagle is the inscription "MEXICAN BORDER DUTY". At the bottom is the Wisconsin coat of arms within a circle. The entire design rests on three radiant arms and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: seven line inscription "PRESENTED BY CITIZENS OF WAUSAU TO MEMBERS OF COMPANY G THIRD WIS. INFTY DEC. 1916" all within a laurel wreath

BROOCH: issued plain but some were engraved with recipient's name.

(Courtesy John Leng)

Pvt. John Zielinske of Wausau

122) GENERIC MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE MEDAL, bronze cross 35 mm, suspended from a bronze ribbon shaped brooch inscribed "BORDER SERVICE 1916". Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee. A very similar version was also made in Grand Haven, Michigan. These are private issues sold nation wide to patriotic groups and localities that could not afford medals of their own designs.
OBVERSE: heraldic eagle and legend "UNITED STATES NATIONAL GUARD" in the center of a radiant cross very similar to the VFW insignia.
REVERSE: twelve line inscription "RAID COLUMBUS, N.M. MARCH 9TH GLENN SPRINGS, TEX. MAY 6TH SAN YGNACIO, TEX. JUNE 14TH NATIONAL GUARD CALLED TO THE COLORS JUNE 18TH AMBUSH AT CARRAZIL, MEX. JUNE 21ST SCHWAAB MILWAUKEE".

WWI LOCAL ISSUES

The victorious conclusion of WWI brought forth a record flood of locally issued medals from the state government level on down to cities, towns and patriotic societies. In Wisconsin 25 different WWI medal types were issued to returning veterans The most common metal used was bronze. Silver was rarely used and gold was usually reserved for posthumous awards More often a large gold star is attached to the ribbon to indicate a posthumous award. This section contains medals that are exclusively for veterans. No civilian souvenir medals are included.

123) ASHLAND WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 37 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle perched on a U.S. shield between the dates 1917-1918. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".

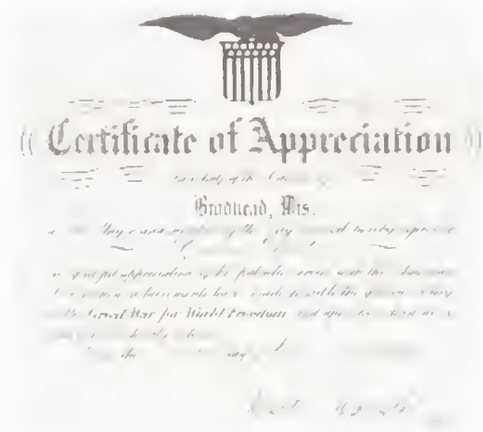
REVERSE: Ashland city seal in the center with ten line inscription above and below, "PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF ASHLAND, WISCONSIN IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICES IN WORLD WAR."

124) BAYFIELD COUNTY WWI SERVICE CROSS, bronze 37 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE- an eagle perched on a U.S. shield between the dates 1917-1918. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".
REVERSE- ten line inscription, "PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF BAYFIELD COUNTY, WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICES IN WORLD WAR."

125) BEAVER DAM WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from a 40 mm bronze brooch in the shape of a beaver on a log inscribed with "BEAVER DAM". Probably made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield [illegible] 1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS"

REVERSE: city seal on two sprigs of laurel below a ten line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF BEAVER DAM, WIS. TO THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS THAT SERVED IN WORLD WAR SEPT. 1ST 1919 BY H. MIRTACH, MAYOR, Wm. A. GERGEN, CITY CLERK."


Certificate of Appreciation

Brodhead, Wis.

126) BRODHEAD WWI CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION, given to every local veteran by the Brodhead Loyalty Legion. The certificates have a full color national shield and are signed by Mayor Walter Douglas. The city also issued a nice book documenting the war efforts of the city and it's veterans.

127) CADOTT WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 37 mm. suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle perched on a U.S. shield between the dates 1917-1918. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".

REVERSE: village seal in the center with eleven line inscription above and below. "PRESENTED BY THE VILLAGE OF CADOTT TO HER GALLANT SONS IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF A DUTY WELL PERFORMED IN THE WORLD WAR."

128) EXCELSIOR LODGE No 175 F. & A. M. (Milwaukee) WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 38 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon from a 38 mm wide bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: soldier and sailor marching left. At right a defensive eagle perched on a U.S. shield below which is a ribbon inscribed "WORLD WAR SERVICE".

REVERSE: nine line inscription "PRESENTED TO C. H. ZARSE BY EXCELSIOR LODGE No 175 F. & A.M. MILWAUKEE, WIS. FOR VALIANT SERVICE RENDERED OUR COUNTRY."

129) FLORENCE COUNTY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 38 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon from a 38 mm wide bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: soldier and sailor advancing left. At right an eagle advancing toward a ribbon inscribed "WORLD WAR SERVICE".

REVERSE: nine line inscription "PRESENTED BY FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE TO ITS WAR HEROES OF 1917-1918 FOR VALIANT SERVICE RENDERED FLORENCE, WIS."

130) FOND DU LAC COUNTY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a multi-color "victory" ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS."
REVERSE: county seal on two sprigs of laurel below a six line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE CITIZENS OF FOND DU LAC COUNTY, WISCONSIN IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR."

131) GRAND RAPIDS (Wisconsin Rapids since 1920) WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 37 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle perched on a U.S. shield between the dates 1917-1918. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".
REVERSE: city seal in the center with ten line inscription above and below, "PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GRAND RAPIDS, WISCONSIN THROUGH THE COMMON COUNCIL IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICES IN THE WORLD WAR."

132) GRANT COUNTY (Wisconsin) WWI VETERANS BADGE, bi-metallic pendent suspended from brooch by two rings, total size 37 mm x 58 mm. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

MEDAL OBVERSE: an 18 mm gold plated medal portraying a soldier with rifle is encased in a bronze circle inscribed "WORLD WAR VETERAN". The entire design rests on two crossed rifles and a laurel wreath.

REVERSE: the Lord's Prayer in tiny letters on the gold plated medal.

BROOCH: eagle on crossed rifles and swords above the framed words "GRANT COUNTY"

This medal is attributed as a Wisconsin medal since it is part of a Wisconsin WWI veteran's medal group and he was a Grant County, Wisconsin resident when he entered the service.

133) GREEN BAY WWI "CALLED TO THE COLORS" MEDAL, bronze shield shaped medal with a fob style loop, 34 mm x 45 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from a plain bronze 38 mm wide brooch as issued. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: an eagle with a ribbon in it's beak inscribed "CALLED TO THE COLORS" is perched on a soft enamel, full color U.S. shield. In the fields below the eagle's wings is the date JUNE 5TH , 1917.

REVERSE: five line inscription :PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF GREEN BAY, WIS. U.S.A."

Medals found on leather fob straps are private alterations most likely due to the frail ribbons and the sharp edged fob style loops.

134) GREEN BAY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS."
REVERSE: city seal on two sprigs of laurel below a five line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE CITY OF GREEN BAY, WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR."

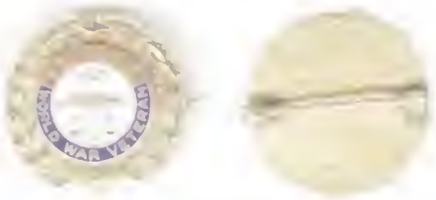
135) IRON COUNTY, HURLEY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a multi-color "victory" ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS."
REVERSE: county seal on two sprigs of laurel below a seven line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY IRON COUNTY, HURLEY WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR."

NOTE: Ribbons with an attached gold star are posthumous awards and are usually named. In this case "FRANK(LIN) M. HAWLEY" of Iron County, who died of meningitis Oct. 4, 1918.

136) JEFFERSON WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 38 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon from a 38 mm wide bronze brooch which may be engraved. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: soldier and sailor marching left. At right a defensive eagle perched on a U.S. shield below which is a ribbon inscribed "WORLD WAR SERVICE".

REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE CITY OF JEFFERSON, WIS. FOR VALIANT SERVICE RENDERED OUR COUNTRY."



137) KENOSHA COUNTY WWI NEXT OF KIN GOLD LAPEL PIN, gold 14 karat, 6.73 grams, 21.6 mm. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J. Each pin is engraved with the dead soldier's name. If the soldier still had a living parent and a widow two pins where issued.

OBVERSE: red, white and blue enamel center with an eye above a flying bird holding a balance scale. The dates 1917 and 1918 are between the scale baskets. All within the legend "KENOSHA WORLD WAR VETERAN" which in turn is within a laurel wreath and above a gold star at the bottom.

REVERSE: "KENOSHA COUNTY HONORS" above an engraved name and makers mark at the bottom.

138) KEWAUNEE COUNTY WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 36 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from an ornamented 44 mm wide bronze brooch with a space for naming. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle perched on the county seal. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".

REVERSE: twelve line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE COUNTY OF KEWAUNEE, IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICE RENDERED DURING THE WORLD WAR 1917 - 1918."

139) KIMBERLY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 35 mm, suspended by a three ring chain from a black ribbon watch fob as issued. Maker unknown.

OBVERSE: enameled U.S. shield above a six line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE KIMBERLY WISCONSIN" all within a laurel wreath tied together with a ribbon inscribed "VICTORY" above a small star.

REVERSE: six line inscription "IN COMMEMORATION OF YOUR SERVICES FOR OUR COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WAR."

140) KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 31.8 mm, holed at top, reeded edge.

OBVERSE: five sided Knights of Pythias emblem. Legend "SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS EUROPEAN WAR MEDAL".

REVERSE: six line inscription "KNIGHT _____ MEMBER OF LODGE NO _____ DOMAIN OF WISCONSIN" with Knights of Pythias triangle at bottom. The three underlined portions are spaces left open for the engraved knight's name, his lodge number and state.

All these medals were issued holed and without suspension. Most were carried as pocket pieces and some were privately suspended on ribbons or used as fobs.

Wisconsin Knights of Pythias Lodges by Lodge Number and Location

Since the Knights of Pythias issued WWI and WWII service medals with only the state name and lodge number the following list of lodge numbers and their locations may be helpful.

Lodge #	Location
1	Milwaukee
3	Milwaukee
11	Milwaukee
12	Madison
18	Sparta
19	Fond Du Lac
20	Watertown
21	Milwaukee
24	Wauwatosa
26	Green Bay
27	La Crosse
29	Waupaca
32	Racine
34	Black River Falls
38	South Milwaukee
40	Beloit
41	Monroe
42	Wauwatosa
45	Tomah
46	Waukesha
47	Milwaukee
48	Alma
49	Eau Claire
57	La Crosse
65	Oconomowoc
69	Fort Atkinson
80	Neenah
81	Sheboygan
83	Milwaukee
84	Brodhead
86	Manitowoc
87	Stoughton
93	Milwaukee
95	Waupun
96	Lake Geneva
102	Milwaukee
104	Portage
105	Cadott
113	Appleton
117	Lancaster
123	Milwaukee
127	Hartford
131	Milwaukee
135	Milwaukee
139	Washburn
141	Milwaukee
142	Reedsburg
146	Edgerton
147	Milwaukee
149	Port Washington
154	Ladysmith
156	Hillsboro
159	La Farge
160	Viroqua
161	Chippewa Falls
163	Mondovi
175	West Allis
177	Milwaukee
178	Cudahy
182	Ontario
184	Ashland
186	Prairie Du Sac
188	Wauwatosa
189	Marinette
193	Evansville

141) NEW LONDON WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS."
REVERSE: city seal on two sprigs of laurel below a five line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE CITY OF NEW LONDON, WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR."

142) OCONOMOWOC WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J. Based on the Oconomowoc Roll of Honor 261 of these medals should have been issued including 11 with gold stars.
OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS."
REVERSE: nine line inscription "PRESENTED TO _____ BY THE CITY OF OCONOMOWOC, WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR, 1917 - 1918" all within a circular ribbon design.

143) RACINE WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 38 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon from a 38 mm wide bronze brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: soldier and sailor marching left. At right a defensive eagle perched on a U.S. shield below which is a ribbon inscribed "WORLD WAR SERVICE".
REVERSE: five line inscription "PRESENTED FOR VALIANT SERVICE RENDERED OUR COUNTRY. BY THE CITY OF RACINE." above a name space.

144) SAUK COUNTY WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 36 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from an ornamented 44 mm wide bronze brooch with a space for naming. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle perched on the Sauk County seal. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".

REVERSE: twelve line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE COUNTY OF SAUK IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE RENDERED DURING THE WORLD WAR 1917 - 1918."

Ribbons with an attached gold star are posthumous awards and are usually named. In this case "FRED (E) GRANGER" of Sauk County, who died of pneumonia Dec. 16, 1918.

145) STANLEY WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 32 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: an eagle standing on the top of a U.S. shield facing left. The dates 1917-1918 are to the left of the eagle. Legend above "THEY DID NOT PASS"

REVERSE: city seal on two sprigs of laurel below a six line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF STANLEY, WIS. IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICES IN WORLD WAR"

146) THIRTY-SECOND DIVISION (RED ARROW) WWI SERVICE MEDAL, the "Mothers Medal", bronze 36 mm nonportable medal lacking any form of suspension. Made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee.
OBVERSE: U.S. eagle above a pedestal between the Wisconsin coat of arms on the left and the divisional insignia on the right. The pedestal is inscribed "VETERAN WORLD WAR 1917-1918".
REVERSE: eight line inscription "TO_ _____ FROM THE MOTHERS OF THE 32ND DIVISION IN APPRECIATION OF HEROISM AND SACRIFICE JUNE 6TH 1919."
NOTE: Any medals of this type on ribbons are private alterations.

147) TREMPEALEAU COUNTY WWI SERVICE CROSS bronze 37 mm, suspended on a multi-color "victory" ribbon. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: an eagle perched on a U.S. shield between the dates 1917-1918. Above the eagle is a ribbon inscribed "UNITED STATES FORCES".
REVERSE: Trempealeau County seal in the upper center above the name space. The county seal is positioned so that it is read as the county name part of the inscription. Ten line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF TREMPEALEAU COUNTY, WISCONSIN TO _____ IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE IN THE WORLD WAR." The bottom line is the makers name.

148) TRIPOLI SHRINE (Milwaukee) WWI SERVICE, gold plated and enameled fez shaped medal. 33.35 mm x 32.4 mm with a suspension loop. This medal was probably issued suspended on a ribbon as part of a fob.
OBVERSE: a red fez with black tassel. In the center is a white and gold scimitar and crescent with crowned star. The name "TRIPOLI" is at the top and "WORLD WAR SERVICE" at the bottom.
REVERSE: "PRESENTED BY TRIPOLI TEMPLE TO NOBLE _____ MILWAUKEE 1917-1918".
The Tripoli Shrine is still very active and sponsors the Tripoli Shrine Circus for the benefit of the Shriners Childrens Hospital.

149) UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WAR SERVICE LAPEL BUTTON, bronze 17 mm x 20 mm shield shaped, screw back. These were awarded to students who enlisted in the military or voluntarily engaged in accredited civilian war work. As many as 5000 of these buttons may have been issued.
OBVERSE: letter "W" in a circle nearly encircled from below within a curved ribbon inscribed "UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN." At the bottom are the words "WAR SERVICE". All is superimposed on a U.S. shield.
REVERSE: an incuse serial number.

150) WISCONSIN RETAIL LUMBERMANS ASSOCIATION WWI SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 43 mm, radiant eight point star shaped. Suspended on a multi-color "victory" ribbon. Made by whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: heraldic U.S. eagle in center of a radiant eight point star within legend "UNITED STATES FORCES 1917-1918."

REVERSE: eleven line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE WISCONSIN RETAIL LUMBERMANS ASSOCIATION, TO _____ IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC SERVICE RENDERED DURING THE WORLD WAR 1917-1918."

A gold star fixed to the ribbon indicates a posthumous award.

GROUPS

A group or grouping ideally is comprised of all the medals that a veteran has earned during their military career. Civilian awards can also be included to represent an entire life time. Family groups also exist which represent the medals and awards of multiple veterans from one family. When veterans were members of the National Guard some very interesting groupings could be formed that include private issues, city, county and state awards along with federal medals and decorations.

Only federal medals may be worn on a uniform when on federal duty. Federal and state national guard medals can be worn on an active duty uniform when not on federal duty. Local medals should never worn on any active duty uniform except at the time of presentation. All medals could be worn by retired veterans on civilian clothes or old uniforms on national holidays and at patriotic events.

151) Illustrated here is medals group earned by a Beaver Dam National Guardsman who served on the Mexican Border and in WWI. The group includes the Federal Mexican Border Service Medal which was for National Guard troops that served on the border but did not cross over into Mexico and the WWI Victory Medal with the bars: Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne and Defensive Sector. For the same service our soldier also got the Wisconsin National Guard Mexican Border Service Medal, the City of Beaver Dam Mexican Border Duty Medal and the Beaver Dam WWI Service Medal.

Welcome Home Celebration Souvenir Medals

Welcome Home Celebration Souvenir Medals are the medals that were sold to the public to finance the celebrations or a monument. Anyone, civilian or a veteran could wear these medals and any civilian not wearing one of these medals at such a celebration would have been considered cheap or unpatriotic. These souvenir medals are often and sometimes intentionally, confused with the more valuable locally issued WWI service medals that were only given to the veterans.

To promote sales of these medals the Whitehead and Hoag Company of Newark, New Jersey put the following message on the backs of some of the cards on which their products were mounted:

Have You Thought of This?

The badge is often the only tangible souvenir that remains in the possession of the member who attended. Very often hundreds and thousands of dollars are spent on music, decorations, flowers, carriages, automobiles, cigars, as well as general entertainment, none of which remain in existence after the convention is over. The badge does, however, and aside from being a souvenir in itself, is a pleasant reminder of all the other good times experienced. In view of these facts, should not a committee give special attention to the selection of a badge that is worthy of the occasion? In view of the large sums of money that go up in smoke, should a committee allow the matter of a few cents to stand in the way of obtaining a suitable badge?

152) ASHLAND WWI WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION, bronze shield shaped 30 mm x 35.9 mm. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: Liberty standing on bundled rods with a flag and holding a laurel sprig in her extended right hand while facing a radiant sun. "ASHLAND WISCONSIN" is above the sun and "IN HONOR OF THE VICTORY" is below the bundle of rods.
REVERSE: ten line inscription "ASHLAND'S WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION TO THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF ASHLAND COUNTY WHO SERVED IN THE WORLD WAR 1917-1918."

153) CUDAHY WWI MEMORIAL FUND MEDAL, bronze 26 mm x 29.5 mm suspended on an American flag ribbon from an ornate 35 mm brooch with the word "SOUVENIR". Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: round medal with WWI style pilots wings on top. Liberty stands at the left with a large palm frond at her right while in her extended left hand she holds a wreath above the words "RIGHT OVER MIGHT." At her feet is an eagle with spread wings. A ribbon along the bottom is inscribed "CUDAHY, WIS."
REVERSE: six line inscription "SOLDIERS SAILORS AND MARINES MEMORIAL FUND 1927"

154) EXCELSIOR LODGE (Milwaukee) WELCOME HOME AND 50TH ANNIVERSARY MEDAL, golden brass 38.4 mm suspended on a light blue satin ribbon from a plain 37.9 mm rectangular golden brass brooch. Made by Schwaab of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: radiant Masonic emblem in center above a [illegible] with "50TH ANNIVERSARY". Legend "EXCELSIOR LODGE No 175 F. & A.M. MILWAUKEE 1869-1919".
REVERSE: eight line inscription "PRESENTED ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXCELSIOR LODGE No 175 F. & A.M. AND THE WELCOME HOME OF OUR WORLD WAR HEROES" above the maker's name.

155) IRON COUNTY WWI WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION MEDAL. bronze 26 mm x 29.5 mm suspended on an American flag ribbon from an ornate 35 mm brooch with the word "SOUVENIR". Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.
OBVERSE: round medal with WWI style pilots wings on top. Liberty stands at the left with a large palm frond at her right while in her extended left hand she holds a wreath above the words "RIGHT OVER MIGHT." At her feet is an eagle with spread wings. A ribbon along the bottom is inscribed "IRON COUNTY, WIS."
REVERSE: eight line inscription "SOUVENIR OF IRON COUNTY, WIS. SOLDIERS SAILORS HOME COMING CELEBRATION 1919."

156) MELLEN WWI WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION MEDAL, bronze 26 mm x 29.8 mm, pin back. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: round medal with WWI style pilots wings on top. Liberty stands at the left with a large palm frond at her right while in her extended left hand she holds a wreath above the words "RIGHT OVER MIGHT." At her feet is an eagle with spread wings.

A ribbon along the bottom is inscribed "MELLEN, WISCONSIN."

REVERSE: eight line inscription "SOUVENIR OF MELLEN'S WELCOME HOME TO THE SOLDIERS SAILORS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY DURING THE EUROPEAN WAR."

157) MILWAUKEE COUNTY WELCOME HOME RECEPTION, bronze 37 mm medal suspended on a red, white and blue satin ribbon inscribed "MILWAUKEE COUNTY WELCOME HOME ARMY AND NAVY 1919" above a union label. The ribbon is on a bronze frame brooch with a celluloid "RECEPTION" insert. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

MEDAL OBVERSE: U.S. heraldic eagle within an ornamental border.

RIBBON REVERSE: flat the paper manufacture's tag sewn on.

MEDAL REVERSE: blank with maker's mark in the center.

158) NEW RICHMOND & ST. CROIX COUNTY WWI WELCOME HOME SOUVENIR PIN, bronze 26 mm x 29.8 mm, pin back. Made by Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J.

OBVERSE: round medal with WWI style pilots wings on top. Liberty stands at the left with a large palm frond at her right while in her extended left hand she holds a wreath above the words "RIGHT OVER MIGHT." At her feet is an eagle with spread wings. A ribbon along the bottom is inscribed "NEW RICHMOND, WIS."

REVERSE: eight line inscription "SOUVENIR OF ST. CROIX COUNTY'S HONOR DAY FOR SERVICE MEN OF THE WORLD WAR OCT. 14, 1919."

WORLD WAR II

It was a different world when WWII ended. We now knew that WWI was not the war that ended all wars. The American role in the war lasted much longer leaving the public some what war weary and financially strained. As a result there was not a flood of medals for the returning veterans. Only three medal types were issued in Wisconsin.

159) KENOSHA COUNTY WWII SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 25 mm x 45 mm, suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon from a rectangular bronze brooch with the word "VICTORY".

OBVERSE: an eagle with spread wings at the top forming the base for the suspension loop. Below a standing female figure supporting a U.S. shield with her right hand and holding a laurel wreath in her extended left hand over an airplane and a battleship.

REVERSE: six line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF KENOSHA COUNTY TO THEIR LOYAL VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II JULY 4, 1946."

Kenosha County had 8,108 residents in military service during WWII of which 151 died while in service.

160) KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS WWII SERVICE MEDAL, bronze 31.5 mm, these medals were issued holed to give the recipients the option to suspend the medals as they saw fit.

OBVERSE: triangular emblem in the center. Legend "SUPREME LODGE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS II WORLD WAR MEDAL."

REVERSE: six line inscription "KNIGHT _____ MEMBER OF LODGE NO. ___ DOMAIN OF _____." above a five sided symbol at the bottom. The underlined spaces are where the recipient's name, lodge number and state name would be engraved. See the WWI K. of P. listing for lodge numbers and locations.

161) MANITOWOC COUNTY WWII SERVICE MEDAL, gilded base metal, 30 mm, without suspension since it was not intended to be worn.

OBVERSE: defiant eagle holding a U.S. flag while perched on the Manitowoc County seal. Along the rim are the equally spaced words "VICTORY PEACE HONOR GLORY."

REVERSE: eight line inscription divided by a blank naming bar "PRESENTED TO OUR LOYAL VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II BY THE CITIZENS OF MANITOWOC 1946 COUNTY."

Manitowoc County had 6,492 of it's residents in military service during WWII of which 131 died while in service.

DESERT STORM

As of now no Wisconsin medals are known to have been issued for service in any conflicts since the second world war.

162) Beloit. The Greater Beloit Gulf War Civic Action Committee did issue a certificate for service in Operation Desert Storm dated May 17, 1991.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN CORPS OF CADETS

Corps of Cadets Hat Badge

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRIZE COMPANY BADGES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRIZE COMPANY BADGES are something of a mystery. Just what was a Prize Company and what criteria determined it's selection remains unknown.

Badge sizes range from 40 mm x 53 mm to 41 mm x 60 mm.

163) Type I: silvered bronze 41 x 53 mm.

OBVERSE: crossed rifles superimposed on a badger facing left with a partially uncoiled ribbon above and in front of him. The ribbon is inscribed "1898 WISCONSIN" and on the badger below the ribbon the inscription continues "PRIZE A COMPANY" meaning that Company A was the Prize Company of 1898. The badge is suspended from a ribbon shaped brooch with a large "U of W" monogram

KNOWN DATES

1898 Company A

164) Type II: silvered bronze.

OBVERSE: badger facing left with a partially uncoiled ribbon above, below and in front of him. The ribbons are inscribed "WISCONSIN" above and "PRIZE COMPANY" below. The year is on the small section of ribbon above the badger's nose and the company letter is mounted on the top of the "Wisconsin" ribbon section.

The badge is suspended from a crossed rifles brooch.

REVERSE: blank.

KNOWN DATES:

1901 Company E

165) Type III a: silvered bronze with the company letter mounted in the lower angle of the crossed rifle brooch.

KNOWN DATES:

1902 Company D

1907 Company A

166) Type III b: bronze with the company letter mounted in the lower angle of the crossed rifle brooch.

KNOWN DATES:

1908 Company I:
1910 Company E
1911 Company G
1913 Company C

167) FRESHMAN COMPANY COMPETITION CROSS, bronze 29.8 mm on a red satin ribbon.

OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center. Black enamel letter "I" on left arm and a black enamel number "2" on the right arm. (company I, 2nd regiment). Inscription "FRESHMAN COMPANY" on top arm and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm.

REVERSE: blank.

168) FRESHMAN COMPANY COMPETITION CROSS, sterling silver 29.8 mm on red satin ribbon.

OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center. Black enamel letter "L" on left arm and a black enamel number "2" on the right arm. (company L, 2nd regiment). Inscription "FRESHMAN COMPANY" on top arm and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm.

REVERSE: blank with "STERLING" at top in tiny letters.

169) SOPHOMORE COMPANY COMPETITION CROSS, bronze 29.7 mm on red satin ribbon.

OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center. Black enamel letter "A" on left arm and a black enamel number "2" on the right arm. (company A, 2nd regiment). Inscription "SOPHOMORE COMPANY" on top arm and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm.

REVERSE: Blank.

170) COMPANY COMPETITION CROSS 1923, bronze 30 mm on a red ribbon.
OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center dividing the date 1923 with '19' on left arm and '23' on the right arm. Inscription "COMPANY" on top arm and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm.
REVERSE: blank.

171) COMPANY COMPETITION MEDAL, bronze 31.5 mm on a gold ribbon with red, white and blue edge stripes. Made by Hood of Philadelphia.
OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center "COMPANY" above and "COMPETITION" below.
REVERSE: blank with maker name at bottom.

172) SOPHOMORE RIFLE COMPETITION CROSS, gold 29.6 mm on red ribbon.
OBVERSE. University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center. Engraved letter "B" on left arm and number "1" on the right arm. (company B, 1ST regiment). Inscription "SOPHOMORE RIFLE" on top arm and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm.
REVERSE. blank with "GOLD" in the center.

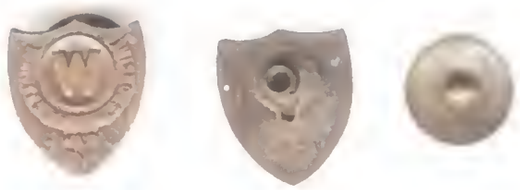
173) RIFLE COMPETITION CROSS 1927, gold 28.8 mm on a red ribbon
OBVERSE. University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center dividing the black enamel date 1927 with "19" on left arm and "27" on the right arm. "RIFLE" on top arm in black enamel and "COMPETITION" on bottom arm in raised letters
REVERSE. blank with the word "GOLD" in tiny letters

174) OFFICERS PISTOL COMPETITION CROSS, bronze 29.5 mm on a red ribbon.
OBVERSE: University of Wisconsin Corps of Cadets shield in center. Inscription " OFFICERS PISTOL" engraved on top the arm and "COMPETITION" in raised letters on the bottom arm.
REVERSE: blank but can be found engraved with rank and name.

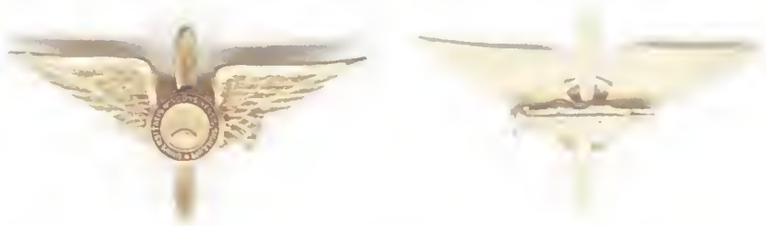
175) UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN REGIMENTAL PRIZE DRILL, 10k yellow gold cross suspended from a pin back brooch, (specific gravity 11.8) total weight 4.72g. total size 33mm x 53mm.
The cut out cross and wreath is engraved "U.W. REGIMENTAL PRIZE DRILL"
REVERSE: blank.
The cut out brooch has a small shield above an arched ribbon engraved with the winners name "LEE H. HUNTLEY" over two crossed rifles.
Mr. Huntley was part of the University of Wisconsin Class of 1908 and won this award in 1906. He graduated with a degree in civil engineering and traveled the world building things. After a distinguished 50 year career Mr. Huntley retired in 1958 and passed away in 1976.

176) COMPETITIVE DRILL PRIZE MEDAL. Bronze 36 mm, suspended from a rectangular 37.7mm wide brooch inscribed "COMPETITIVE DRILL".
OBVERSE: three line inscription "WON BY COMPANY C NOV. 23, 1918" in the center within legend "S.A.T.C. UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN." (S.A.T.C. Student Army Training Corps)
REVERSE: blank but usually found engraved with recipient's name.

177) UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN REGIMENTAL BAND, fob or medal (?) 1917, gold plated bronze, 34 mm x 35 mm. Made by Dieges and Clust.
OBVERSE: an ornate "W" on a pebbled surface. Top ribbon inscribed "UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN" and the bottom ribbon "REGIMENTAL BAND."
REVERSE: blank but engraved with recipient's name dates and rank.



178) UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WAR SERVICE LAPEL BUTTON, bronze 17 mm x 20 mm shield shaped, screw back. These were awarded to students who enlisted in the military or voluntarily engaged in accredited civilian war work. As many as 5000 of these buttons may have been issued.
OBVERSE: letter "W" in a circle nearly encircled from below within a curved ribbon inscribed "UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN." At the bottom are the words "WAR SERVICE". All is superimposed on a U.S. shield.
REVERSE: an incuse serial number.



179) UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN AVIATION CADET WINGS, gold plated pin back 44.5 mm x 24.6 mm.. This is probably a sweetheart pin which would indicate the possible existence of a full size version.
OBVERSE: partially enameled Univ. of Wis. Seal on a two blade propeller between two wings.

SAINT JOHN'S MILITARY ACADEMY

Founded in 1884, St. John's Military Academy was described by Fred L. Holmes in his 1946 five volume history titled Wisconsin "...as a military school of the first class, inspected annually by officers from the General Staff at Washington and being continually awarded the War Department's designation as an Honor School which is accredited to West Point and Annapolis. St. John's M.A. graduates qualify for the rank of second lieutenant of infantry in the Officers Reserve Corps, Army of the United States." Even earlier in 1914 the eight volume Wisconsin It's Story and Biography, by Ellis B. Usher states the "the governor of Wisconsin is by law, authorized to issue to every graduate of the school a commission as second lieutenant in the unorganized militia of the state." Such recognition clearly places St. John's Military Academy medals within the scope of this book. Since it's founding S.J.M.A. has issued an extensive number of medals. This section is a trial listing of the medals by name as gleaned from some of the St. John's M.A. year books with more detailed descriptions when ever possible. This listing is limited to medals originating exclusively from S.J.M.A. and does not include medals awarded to cadets by off campus organizations.

In 1995 St. John's merged with the Northwestern Military and Naval Academy of Lake Geneva Wisconsin to become St. John's Northwestern Military Academy of Delafield Wisconsin.

St. John's Military Academy Medals

Note these medals often were issued pinned to the end of a short length of ribbon which in turn was pinned to the uniform and worn only on the day the award was made. This cadet appears to be wearing a crack squad and Strotz medal.

180) ARMITAGE MEDAL (Arithmetic)

181) R.H. BERNS MEDAL (Hardest working cadet in Co. A)

182) BEST DRILLED OLD CADET

183) BEST DRILLED NEW CADET

184) BEST "SET-UP" OLD CADET

185) BEST "SET-UP" NEW CADET, Gold, 14k, 5.64 grams, 33.8 x 51.6 mm
BROOCH: ribbon shaped with forked ends, engraved with original recipients name
Medal, suspended from the brooch by two six link chains. The entire design is engraved, round medal in wreath with SJMA arms in center above ribbon with motto "LABORARE LUDERE ORARE" (Work hard, Play hard, Pray hard)
REVERSE: engraved "WINNER – BEST SET UP // NEW CADETS // 1914."

186) PHILLIP C. BRETTING MEMORIAL MEDAL, (Silver Rifles Drill Team most valuable member)

187) DAVID B. BUCKLIN MEDAL, (For military advancement and moral support of Co. B)

188) BLOODGOOD MEDAL, (Best Senior all-'round athlete)
Gold 14k, 10.81 grams, 38 x 77 mm total, possibly made by Harriott of Boston
BROOCH: ornamented, engraved "S.J.M.A." and "14k" on the reverse
Flying eagle suspended from the brooch by two three link chains
Medal in a frame mounted on a back plate engraved "BLOODGOOD" within an ornamental design.
REVERSE: engraved "BEST ATHLETE 1901" and has 14k at the top

189) COMMANDANT'S MEDAL (Best squad leader)

190) CONTRIBUTOR'S MEDAL (Cadet who has given of himself above and beyond the call of duty)

191) CRACK PLATOON CROSS, Bronze 33.3 x 50.5 mm, made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee.

BROOCH: pin back rectangular frame inscribed "CRACK PLATOON".

CROSS: suspended from brooch by ring. SJMA arms in center wreath. Initials "S J M A" on the cross arms.

REVERSE: blank with makers mark.

192) CRACK SQUAD CROSS, Bronze 33x 49 mm.

BROOCH: pin back rectangular frame inscribed "CRACK SQUAD".

CROSS: suspended from brooch by ring. Date number "23" in center wreath. Initials "S J M A" on the cross arms.

REVERSE blank.

193) DAD'S CLUB MEDAL FOR CITIZENSHIP

194) DAD'S CLUB MEDAL FOR HIGHEST ACADEMIC AVERAGE IN MILITARY TRAINING

195) DEAN OF THE ACADEMY MEDAL (New Cadet)

196) DEAN'S MEDAL IN HONOR OF GEN. DOUGLAS MCARTHUR (Best soldier in the corps)

197) DR. DEKOVEN MEDAL (American History) gold 14k, 9.09 grams, 36 x 52 mm.
BROOCH: ornamented pin back, engraved "ST. JOHN'S M.A."
MEDAL: round with top ornamentation nested in an open laurel wreath is suspended from the brooch by two five link chains. Engraved "DeKoven" in the center.
REVERSE: engraved "HIGHEST AVERAGE IN U.S. HISTORY."

198) Dr. Delafield Medal (Most worthy cadet. Academy's Highest School Honor)
Gold plated bronze, 33mm.
MEDAL: SJMA arms in center. Engraved legend "DR. DELAFIELD MEDAL MOST WORTHY CADET".
REVERSE: date 1948 in center and "GF" at bottom.

199) GUY V. DERING MEDAL (Best trap shot)

200) DISTINGUISHED CADET (Special aptitude for the military life)

201) EDITORS MEDAL (Journalism)

202) ELEY MEDAL (Advanced Latin)

203) GEN. ROY E. FARRAND MEDAL (Most improvement in scholarship)

204) FLYING MEDAL (For senior cadet's first solo flight)

205) EARL GILBERT MEDAL (Computer I)

206) CLINTON GRAVES MEDAL (Most worthy choir man)

207) CORA H. GRAVES BAND MEDAL (Senior grade Old Boy band member)

208) LYMAN GRAVES MEDAL (New Boy band member)

209) DOLLY GRAY MEDAL (Greatest combination of athletics, scholarship and devotion to duty)

210) IDA HANAUER MEDAL (Highest honor in scholarship)

211) MONROE HANAUER MEDAL (Highest academic average)

212) PAUL P. HEGNER MEDAL (Best Lieutenant in the corps)

213) H. S. MEET 1ST (prize or meet?) Medal Bronze, 33.3 mm, with fob type loop on blue ribbon.
MEDAL: laurel sprig at left, "1ST [illegible] ST. JOHN'S M. A. [illegible] H. S. MEET [illegible] MAY 1923" engraved in center right.
REVERSE: blank.

214) DOROTHY JOYCE MEDAL (Limited to ranks Master Sgt. - Capt. for devotion to duty and honesty thereby promoting honor and integrity within the corps)

215) KEMPER-DEKOVEN CREW MEDALS (Nine medals)

216) BISHOP KEMPER MEDAL (Plane Geometry)

217) DR. KEMPER MEDAL (Best commencement speech)

218) J.B. KEMPER MEDAL (Best Drilled Cadet)

219) HENRY J. KLEIN MEDAL (Best believer in law and order, good cittzenship and the golden rule)

220) SIDNEY KLEIN '24 MEDAL (Most truthful and fair cadet)

221) KRANTZ MEDAL (Trigonometry)

222) BERNARD MOORE LESTER '43 MEDAL (Senior recognized for unselfish concern for the rights and welfare of his men)

223) LIBRARY MEDAL (Meritorious Service to the Old Boy's Memorial Library in the audio visual service)

224) McKay Memorial Medal (Cadet who most exemplifies the Gold character)

225) Medal of Honor (Any cadet or Old Boy who distinguishes himself in any way that reflects extreme credit on himself or the school may be nominated)

226) MOST FAITHFUL ACOLYTE MEDAL (Chapel)

227) MOST IMPROVED CHESS TEAM MEMBER MEDAL

228) MOST DILIGENT CHESS TEAM MEMBER MEDAL

229) MOST VALUABLE VARSITY CHESS TEAM MEMBER MEDAL

230) MOST VALUABLE JUNIOR VARSITY CHESS TEAM MEMBER MEDAL

231) ALICE SMYTHE MOUSO MEDAL (Most soldierly new cadet)

232) FRANK W. MOUSO MEMORIAL MEDAL (Graduating cadet who was one of the top three in his class for the last three years)

233) BISHOP NICHOLSON MEDAL (French II) Gold 14k, 9.09 grams, 36 x 52 mm
BROOCH: ornamented pin back, engraved "ST. JOHN'S M.A."
MEDAL: round with top ornamentation nested in an open laurel wreath is suspended from the brooch by two five link chains. Engraved "BISHOP NICHOLSON" in the center.
REVERSE: engraved, "HIGHEST AVERAGE IN ADVANCED FRENCH"
NOTE: These medals often were issued pinned to the end of a short length of ribbon which in turn was pinned to the uniform and worn only on the day the award was made.

234) OLD BOY "O" ROACH MEDAL (Most deserving son of an Old Boy)

235) OLD BOYS MEDAL (Physics)

236) OLD BOYS ASSOC. MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN MILITARY TRAINING

237) ORDER OF MERIT MEDAL Bronze 33mm with fob style loop on a red and purple ribbon. Made by Bunde and Upmeyer of Milwaukee.
MEDAL: enamel SJMA arms in center. Engraved legend "ORDER OF MERIT" and date at bottom.
REVERSE blank with makers mark .

238) ORDER OF THE WHITE ROSE (Cadet with a nearly blameless life)

239) PATTEE BROTHERS MEDAL (Year's most outstanding athlete)

240) PRECENTOR'S MEDAL gold 14k, cross and brooch, 5.38 grams, 29 x 43mm, made by Harriott of Boston.
BROOCH ornamented engraved "PRECENTOR'S MEDAL"
CROSS convex, suspended from the brooch by two three link chains has the number 98 in a wreath riveted to the center of the cross. The arms of the cross are engraved S.J.M.A with one letter per arm
REVERSE blank with fineness and maker's mark
The term "Precentor" means choir director and the number 98 is thought to be the year of issue.

241) PRESIDENT'S MEDAL (Most soldierly cadet)

242) RIFLE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS (Ten members)

243) ROBINSON MEDAL (Best Oarsman)

244) PRISCILLA ROSE MEDAL (Cadet who best symbolizes the spirit of St. John's)

245) RUTTE COURTESY MEDAL (One to each company) Sterling silver, 9.1 grams. 22.7 x 34 mm.
MEDAL: enamel SJMA arms above eagle on perch. "RUTTE" engraved at the top and "COURTESY" engraved below on the perch.
REVERSE: date '47 in center and "STERLING" at bottom.

246) BILLIE SANDERSON MEDAL (English Literature.)

247) G.F. SCHONEK MEDAL (French I.)

248) SCHUCHARDT MEDAL (Spanish)

249) SENIOR SPEECH MEDAL

250) COL. CHARLES T. SMYTHE MEDAL (Best non-commissioned officer cadet of the year)

251) E.E. SMYTHE MEDAL (Commercial Studies)

252) ELIZABETH ROSS SMYTHE MEDAL (Cadet with greatest moral courage)

253) SPENSELEY MEDAL (Chemistry) Gold, 14k medal and brooch, 7.64 grams, 31.1 x 52.3 mm.

BROOCH: ornamented pin back engraved "S. J. M. A."

MEDAL: two tone gold cut out shield and wreath design suspended from the brooch by two five link chains. "SPENSLEY" engraved across the center.

REVERSE: "CHEMISTRY" engraved across the center and "14k" at the bottom.

NOTE: These medals often were issued pinned to the end of a short length of ribbon which in turn was pinned to the uniform and worn only on the day the award was made.

254) STROTZ MEDALS (For at least eleven different subjects: Art, General Science, Solid Geometry, English I, English II, English III, Ancient History, Advanced Algebra, Elementary Latin, Elementary Spanish, Modern History.) Copper cross and brooch, 38 x 51 mm, with real gold attachments.
BROOCH: rectangular pin back with inscription "STROTZ MEDAL".
CROSS: suspended by ring from brooch. Enamel SJMA arms mounted in the center dividing the date 19-19 in gold numbers mounted on the left and right cross arms. A real gold ribbon draped across the bottom arm and folded over the left and right arms is engraved with subject name as "GENERAL SCIENCE".
REVERSE: blank with the original recipients name in ink.
NOTE: These medals often were issued pinned to the end of a short length of ribbon which in turn was pinned to the uniform and worn only on the day the award was made.

255) SUPERIOR CADET DECORATION (Four awards)

256) TAYLOR BAND MEDAL (Most improved cadet)

257) THOMPSON MEDALS (For the three most efficient men of the Band)

258) BISHOP WELLES MEDAL (Algebra)

259) WILLIAM L. WEST MEDAL (Excellence in math and athletics; hockey, football or both)

260) WISCONSIN GOVERNORS MEDAL (Outstanding citizenship, patriotism, attention to duty and high academic standing within the corps)

CIVIL AWARDS - MEDALS

The civil awards section is for medals and badges of a non-military nature. Primarily local government awards for long service and retirement most of which are from law enforcement and fire fighting agencies.

Law enforcement and fire fighting awards are rarely encountered on the secondary or collectors market. Since both groups are primarily uniformed services and are modeled along military lines most departments have an awards system of medals and decorations. For long service and retirement most of the awards are in badge form. Valor, commendation and life saving awards exist mostly in medal form though ribbon bars and certificates are common. The law enforcement medal types encountered most frequently are for marksmanship and these are usually generic designs with appropriate engraving. Medals commemorating special police and fire events are almost always private issues from civic groups or public subscription efforts.

261) KENOSHA POLICE MARKSMANSHIP 1ST PRIZE 1923, gold plated bronze 34.2 mm, suspended on a blue, white and red satin ribbon from an ornamented gold plated brooch engraved with recipient's name.
OBVERSE revolver on a target shield and laurel wreath below a ribbon inscribed "POLICE DEPT."
REVERSE totally engraved four line inscription "SGT. M. J. KIRSCH 1ST PRIZE 1923 KENOSHA, WIS."

262) KENOSHA POLICE MARKSMANSHIP 1ST PRIZE 1925, gold plated bronze arrow head shaped fob type medal, 34.4 mm x 43 mm. Made by Spies Brothers of Chicago.

OBVERSE: standing policeman aiming a hand gun within an oval. Around the oval are traces of a removed legend. Indicating that this may be a recycled medal.

REVERSE: totally engraved six line inscription "1ST PRIZE SGT. MAL. KIRSCH TARGET SHOOT POLICE DEPT. KENOSHA, WIS. 1925" with makers mark at bottom.

263) KENOSHA POLICE MARKSMANSHIP 1ST PRIZE 1926, gold plated bronze shield shaped watch fob type medal on a black leather ribbon like strap topped with a five link chain on a swivel claw. Total size 31.6 mm x 174 mm. Made by Spies Brothers of Chicago.

OBVERSE: crossed revolvers above target in laurel wreath.

REVERSE: totally engraved seven line inscription "1ST PRIZE SERGT. M. J. KIRSCH TARGET SHOOT POLICE DEPARTMENT KENOSHA, WIS. 1926" and makers mark "N R S" with the R and S in circles at the bottom.

264) KENOSHA: S. S. WISCONSIN RESCUERS MEDAL 1929, bronze 41.5 mm cross shaped suspended on a red, white and blue ribbon. Made by the Greenduck Company of Chicago. Number awarded 32.

OBVERSE: scene depicting the sinking S.S. Wisconsin with a crowded rescue boat in the foreground. All within a lifesaver inscribed "S. S. WISCONSIN." The top of the lifesaver is covered by an eagle with spread wings. Two crossed telescopes are on the left and right cross arms.

REVERSE: eleven line inscription "PRESENTED BY THE CITIZENS OF KENOSHA, WIS.IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF THE RESCUE WORK DURING THE SINKING OF THE S.S. WISCONSIN OCT. 29, 1929."

265) MILWAUKEE: NEWHALL HOUSE FIRE MEDAL 1883, suspended on a narrow black ribbon from a gold or gold plated rectangular brooch engraved "NEWHALL HOUSE 1883."

MEDAL: design is a fire ladder on which is mounted a dark blue enameled fire helmet above two crossed fire hooks and two crossed fire hose nozzles.

This medal was funded by private contributions and awarded to the approximately one hundred firemen who fought the fire. The Newhall House was a hotel that burned to the ground Jan. 10, 1883 with the loss of between 71 and 78 lives.

(Courtesy Jim Ley, Milwaukee Fire Department Museum and Historical Society, 1615 West Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee, Wis. 53215)

266) MILWAUKEE: SAFETY COMMISSION AWARD MEDAL, gold bronze 39.9 mm x 42.9 mm wreath shaped medal with a fob type loop.

OBVERSE: cross in circle with legend "UNIVERSAL SAFETY" at the top above the four line inscription "AWARDED BY THE MILWAUKEE SAFETY COMMISSION CITY OF MILWAUKEE" which in turn is above the city seal "MI" within a laurel wreath.

REVERSE "AWARDED TO" near the top

267) NEOSHO: VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT LONG SERVICE RETIREMENT MEDAL, brass shield shaped medal and pendent with granular surface on a blue ribbon. Total assembly is 32 mm x 120 mm.

MEDAL OBVERSE: horse drawn fire engine in center with "BRAVE LADS TO THE RESCUE" above and "NEOSHO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT" below.

MEDAL REVERSE: blank with paper sticker on which the recipient's name and the number of years served is printed.

PENDENT OBVERSE: brass rectangle with rope frame in which is engraved "41 YEARS"

This medal appears to be fairly modern and the odd number of years on this example indicates that this medal may be a retirement medal or that the medals were issued to celebrate a department anniversary date and every member got a medal with the number of years they served engraved on the pendent.

268) RACINE: S. S. WISCONSIN RESCUERS MEDAL 1929, 10 karat gold, 34 mm flower shaped medal holed at the top for an unknown suspension. Made by Dodge & Ascher jewelers of Chicago. The medal is not named. Only 7 medals were awarded to the members of the Racine Coast Guard unit that took part in the rescue effort.
OBVERSE: anchor within a round life preserver. Legend "LIFESAVING AWARD RACINE WISCONSIN."
REVERSE: engraved "DEDICATED BY THE CITIZENS OF RACINE TO IT'S HEROIC COAST GUARDS FOR SAVING LIVES OF THE WISCONSIN'S CREW OFF KENOSHA MONDAY OCT. 28, 1929" above the makers name and hallmark.
(Courtesy Tom Casper)

269) STEVENS POINT POLICE MARKSMANSHIP AWARD 1947, sterling silver, 5.06 grams, 18.3 mm x 27 mm suspension ring at the top.
OBVERSE: crossed rifles and a target.
REVERSE: incuse inscription "STEVENS POINT POLICE 1947" and "STERLING" at the bottom.

Wisconsin Anti-Tuberculosis Association Health Guard Medals

The W.A.T.A. issued four medals for the Christmas Seal Campaign of 1917. At that time tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in the United States. Christmas Seals were invented by Red Cross volunteer Emily Bissell in a successful effort to save a Delaware Sanitarium from financial collapse. By the 1916 Christmas Season sales of Christmas Seals raised $1,000,000 nationally through the efforts of half a million child crusaders and their parents. In 1917 the program in Wisconsin took on a more military approach and issued the following four medal award types to it's crusaders. The medals were all made by the Schwaab Stamp and Seal Company of Milwaukee.

270) Round bronze 27mm pin back medal.
OBVERSE: features a Lithuanian style knight above a double cross in the center. The ribbons above and below are inscribed "WISCONSIN HEALTH GUARD".
REVERSE: blank except for the wire pin and makers name.

271) Bronze medal suspended from a 27mm bronze brooch inscribed "MERIT".
OBVERSE: features a Lithuanian style knight above a double cross in the center. The ribbons above and below are inscribed "WISCONSIN HEALTH GUARD".
REVERSE: legend "WISCONSIN ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION 1917" around the center which is inscribed "CHRISTMAS SEAL CAMPAIGN" in three lines.

272) Bronze medal suspended from a 27mm bronze bar inscribed "MERIT" which in turn is suspended from a 27mm bronze brooch inscribed "W.A.T.A.".
OBVERSE: features a Lithuanian style knight above a double cross in the center. The ribbons above and below are inscribed "WISCONSIN HEALTH GUARD."
REVERSE: legend "WISCONSIN ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION 1917" around the center which is inscribed "CHRISTMAS SEAL CAMPAIGN" in three lines.

273) Bronze medal suspended from a 27mm bronze bar inscribed "SERVICE" which in turn is suspended from a 27mm bronze brooch inscribed "W.A.T.A.".
OBVERSE: features a Lithuanian style knight above a double cross in the center. The ribbons above and below are inscribed "WISCONSIN HEALTH GUARD".
REVERSE: legend "WISCONSIN ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION 1917" around the center which is inscribed "CHRISTMAS SEAL CAMPAIGN" in three lines.

Presentation Badges

Badges like those worn or carried by police and firemen etc. are badges of office and as such are not awards or decorations and therefore are not listed in this work. Presentation badges for long service and retirement are awards and are listed here. Most are privately funded and are usually not issued by the local government units that they represent. Nearly all are unique and most have an appropriate inscription on the reverse side. The listing here is certainly incomplete but it does present a wide scope of types that can be expected to have been issued locally throughout the state.

274) EDGERTON: FIRE DEPARTMENT 25 YEARS SERVICE BADGE, gold plated radiant round shape, 28.5 mm. Made by the American LaFrance Company.
OBVERSE: fire fighting emblem in center within ribbons inscribed "EDGERTON FIRE DEPT. 25 YRS. SERVICE".
REVERSE: blank with makers mark.

275) FOND DU LAC: FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, nickel plated bronze eagle top shield, 33.6 mm x 44.5 mm. Pin back.
OBVERSE: fire fighting emblem in center with "RETIRED FIRE DEPT." above and "FOND DU LAC, WIS." below.

276) GLENDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT 20 YEARS SERVICE BADGE, gilt nickel plated bronze, 22.2 mm x 34.4 mm, eagle top round shield. Pin back.
OBVERSE: fire fighting emblem in center within legend "20 YR. SERVICE GLENDALE" above "F.D."

277) GRAND CHUTE: VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. RETIRED CHIEF BADGE, gold plated eagle top round shield, 39 mm x 63mm. Pin back.
OBVERSE: eagle perched above the chief's name at top. Fire chief rank insignia in center within legend "RETIRED CHIEF GRAND CHUTE." "V.F.D." at the bottom

278) GREEN BAY: FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, gold plated 24.3 mm x 35 mm round eagle top badge.
OBVERSE: Captain's rank emblem in center with inscription "RETIRED GREEN BAY FIRE DEPT."
REVERSE: wallet clip.

279) JUDA FIRE DEPARTMENT 25 YEARS SERVICE BADGE, gold plated bronze 19.5 mm x 26 mm. Pin back.
OBVERSE: fire helmet on a bar with arrow head ends inscribed "VETERAN". Round center inscribed "25 F. D." rests on a curved ribbon inscribed "JUDA, WIS." all in dark blue lettering.
REVERSE: marked "GOLD FILLED."

280) TOWN OF LAKE: FIRE DEPARTMENT HONORARY MEMBER BADGE, 1937-1951, gold plated helmet top shield, 39.6 mm x 53.6 mm. Pin back.
OBVERSE: fire helmet and crossed fire horns on top of a shield. "TOWN OF LAKE" above an oval in the center inscribed "HONORARY MEMBER" and "FIRE DEPT." below the center.
REVERSE: recipient's name and date of issue in two lines.
The Town of Lake is now part of the city of Milwaukee and an honorary member is usually someone who has done a lot of volunteer work for the department.

281) MILWAUKEE, CITY CHIEF QUARANTINE OFFICER RETIREMENT BADGE, gold 15 grams, 22 mm x 35 mm. Pin back.
OBVERSE: eagle top round badge. City seal in the center within legend "CHIEF QUARANTINE OFFICER MILWAUKEE."
REVERSE: engraved "FERDINAND MACK JR. FROM HIS CO-WORKERS 1903-1939" in four lines.

(Courtesy Tom Casper)

282) MILWAUKEE COMMON COUNCIL LONG SERVICE BADGE 1924, 10 karat gold, 9.33 grams, 49 mm x 49 mm five point ball tipped star. Made by the E.H. Warnke Company of Milwaukee. This jewelry manufacturer was a major badge maker of Milwaukee area presentation badges.

OBVERSE: dark blue enamel inscripti

REVERSE: engraved "BY RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL CITY OF MILWAUKEE." Two hallmarks flank the inscription.

Mr. Wolfgram was a caulker for the water department and was still on the job at the time of his fiftieth anniversary. In the resolution the common council expressed the "sincere hope that he will continue to perform his duties for many years to come." !

MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGES

These are all privately funded. None are department issues.

STANDARD OBVERSE DESIGN: Phoenix rising from flames above a circular design in a laurel wreath. Within the wreath is the legend "FIRE DEPARTMENT MILWAUKEE" and within the legend is a slightly raised center inscribed with a number, rank or the words "RETIRED MEMBER".

REVERSE: usually engraved with a name and service dates. Pin back or screw back.

In effect these are smaller versions of the regulation badge designs.

283) Type I: until the 1960's, size range variations within 20.7 mm x 34.6 mm

METAL VARIATIONS

A) 14k yellow gold with diamond, pin back.

B) 14k yellow gold, pin back.

C) 14k white gold, pin back

D) silver, pre 1945, large size 25.4 x 34.6 mm, pin back.

E) silver, post 1945, small size 21 x 29.4 mm, pin back.

284) Type IIa: 1960's- ??, size range variations within 29.5 mm x 41.6 mm, chrome plated bronze with convex center, pin back. These are assumed to exist but I have not seen any with the proper inscriptions. Badges without retirement inscriptions are private purchase wallet badges.

285) Type IIb: 1960's, size range variations within 29.5 mm x 41.6 mm, gold plated bronze with convex center, screw back.

286) Type IIe: 1980's-, size range variations within 29.5 mm x 41.6 mm, gold plated bronze with flat center, screw back.
NOTE: type II badges without inscriptions on the reverse are private purchase wallet and off duty carry badges.

287) AMERICAN LEGION ISSUED FIRE DEPT. RETIREMENT BADGES, issued to retiring fire fighters who are also members of the American Legion.
STANDARD OBVERSE DESIGN: Phoenix rising from flames above a circular design in a laurel wreath. Within the wreath is the legend "FIRE DEPARTMENT MILWAUKEE" and within the legend is an American Legion button
REVERSE: blank.
METAL VARIATIONS:
A) silver, 21.3 mm x 29.5 mm, pin back.
B) silver plated bronze, 21.3 mm x 29.5 mm, pin back.
C) chrome plated bronze, 21.3 mm x 29.5 mm, pin back.

288) MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT HONORARY MEMBER BADGES 1947 to present, gold plated bronze, 29.6 mm x 41.3 mm, screw back. Made by Urffmeyer & Son of Milwaukee.

STANDARD OBVERSE DESIGN: Phoenix rising from flames above a circular design in a laurel wreath. Within the wreath is the legend "FIRE DEPARTMENT MILWAUKEE" and within the legend is a slightly raised center inscribed with the words "HONORARY MEMBER"

REVERSE: usually engraved with a name, date and maker's mark "ESCO". Pin back or screw back.

Honorary Members were usually long time members of the Fire Bell Club who provided hot coffee, warm food and warming stations at fire scenes. Also included are fire fighters who at age sixty are placed on restricted duty no longer allowing them to actually fight fires.

289) MILWAUKEE CITY PARK COMMISSIONER PRESENTATION BADGE, 14k gold 20 grams, 56 mm x 56 mm ball tipped star, pin back.

OBVERSE: eagle with spread wings mounted on a gold disc in the center of an ornamented star. Legend "PARK COMMISSIONER MILWAUKEE" in gold letters in a black enamel circle around the center disc.

REVERSE: engraved "PRESENTED BY UNITY CLUB TO PETERS BRONKALA JAN 15, 1916" and marked "14K" in the center.

(Courtesy Tom Casper)

MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIEMENT BADGES

These are all privately funded and tend to be smaller versions of the regulation badge designs. Most are presented by the police union, friends or family.

The union issued types are the most common, usually sterling silver, 29.6mm x 40 mm, pin back.

290) STANDARD UNION OBVERSE DESIGNS: are the same as the regulation police badge: an eagle top shield design with the recipient's badge number engraved on the center star. STANDARD UNION REVERSE. usually has engraved service dates and some times a name. Pin back.
Private friends and family type badges tend to be of the same design as the regulation badges either the police eagle top shield or the detectives shield with the all seeing eye. These badges are usually for the higher ranks in yellow or white gold and some times set with diamonds or other stones. The reverse inscriptions are much more extensive and often include statements like "from members of the traffic bureau."

Metal Variations Eagle Top Shields

291) silver

292) two tone gold with ruby.
(Courtesy Tom Casper)

293) yellow gold.

294) white gold.
(Courtesy Mike Halasi)

Detective Shield

295) white and yellow gold with diamond.

AMERICAN LEGION ISSUED POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGES, issued to retiring police officers who are also members of American Legion Post 415.
STANDARD OBVERSE DESIGNS: similar to the regulation police badge eagle top shield design except that there is an American Legion button in the center where the star would normally be.
REVERSE: blank some times marked "sterling" and with maker's name.

Metal Versions

296) sterling silver, 29.5 mm x 39.8 mm, 18.7 grams, marked "sterling" and with maker's name, Theleman. Pin back

297) silver plated, 27.5 mm x 38.4 mm, 16.67 grams, without any markings, pin back

MILWAUKEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGES:

298) Eagle Top Shield type, pre 1970 design, silver 22.6 mm x 40.6 mm, pin back. Made by Erftmeyer and Son of Milwaukee.

OBVERSE: Wisconsin state seal in the center of an eagle top shield with "MILWAUKEE COUNTY" and "DEPUTY" on two ribbons above the center and "SHERIFF" on the ribbon below. At the bottom is a small oval with the deputy's badge number in black enamel numbers.

REVERSE: engraved name with appointment and retirement dates in three lines. Marked "ESCO STERLING" at bottom right

299) Seven Point Star type, 1970-2004, 38.4 mm x 37.5 mm, gold plated and silver plated versions depending on the recipient's rank.
OBVERSE: Wisconsin state seal in center within blue enamel and gold ring. Inscription from top down "SHERIFFS DEPUTY MILWAUKEE COUNTY" above and below the state seal.
REVERSE: engraved with rank and name above service dates. Marked "ESCO 1-20K" at the bottom.

300) MONROE 25 YEAR ALDERMANIC SERVICE BADGE, gold plated bronze, 28.5 mm x 40.5 mm, eagle top oval shield.
OBVERSE: Wisconsin state seal in center within blue enamel ring all within a larger circle inscribed "ALDERMAN" above and "MONROE" below. Above the circle is a ribbon with "25 YEARS SERVICE" and at the bottom is a space inscribed "WIS."
REVERSE: blank.

301) MONROE FIRE DEPARTMENT 50 YEAR SERVICE BADGE, 1951, gold plated eagle top round shield, 22.4 mm x 36.4 mm, pin back.
OBVERSE: eagle on top with ribbon inscribed "50 YRS." Fire fighting emblem in the center with "MONROE" above and "FIRE DEPT." below.
REVERSE: back plate inscribed with name and start date. Marked "GOLD FILLED" below.

302) WAUKESHA POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIRED DETECTIVE LT. With 25 years service. Eagle top gold plated shield, 32 mm x 40 mm, clip back, dark blue lettering "RETIRED LT. OF DET. 25 YRS. WAUKESHA WIS."
Nearly every one of their retirement badges may be unique if they include rank and number of years served in the inscriptions.

303) WAUSAU FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, Pipeman 1932, gold plated bronze 44 mm x 53.8 mm, solid metal construction, not stamped out of sheet metal.
OBVERSE: eagle top radiant shape. Helmet, ladder and other fire fighting implements crossed on a center disc. Inscription "PIPEMAN C. BARTELS* RETIRED WAUSAU FD."
* The name is actually misspelled on the badge and should be Bartelt.
REVERSE: engraved "MARCH 3, 1908 TO JUNE 15, 1932" in three lines. Marked "ROLLED PLATE FRONT" at the upper left.

304) WAUSAU FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, Captain, 1943, gold plated, 43.6 mm x 53.4 mm. Hollow construction, stamped out of sheet metal.
OBVERSE: eagle top radiant shape. Captain's rank insignia crossed in the center. Inscription "A. GAETZMAN* RETIRED WAUSAU F.D."
* The name is actually misspelled on the badge and should be GAETZMANN.
REVERSE: inscribed "ENTERED JUNE 5, 1918 RETIRED DEC. 31, 1943."
*Wausau badge makers apparently had problems with names.

305) WAUSAU POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, gold face front, hollow construction with gold plated back plate, 42.4 mm x 69.7 mm.
OBVERSE: eagle top round shield with state seal in the center. The word "RETIRED" is on the ribbon in eagles beak. "WAUSAU" in blue letters is above the center and "POLICE" in blue letters is below the center.
REVERSE: inscribed "PRESENTED TO WALTER SOBVICK BY MEMBERS WAUSAU POLICE DEPT. APPOINTED APRIL 15 - 1925 RETIRED MARCH 15 - 1937."

306) WAUWATOSA FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, silver, 21.5 mm x 29.3 mm, pin back.
OBVERSE: phoenix top round shield similar to Milwaukee type I. Rank in center. Legend "FIRE DEPARTMENT WAUWATOSA."
REVERSE: blank

307) WEST BEND FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT BADGE, cross shaped nickel plated bronze, 34.6 mm x 35 mm.
OBVERSE: captain's rank emblem in center. "25 YRS. SERVICE WEST BEND" above and "FIRE DEPT. RETIRED" below.
REVERSE: wallet clip.

NOTES

NOTES

WISCONSIN MILITARY AND CIVIL MEDALS

by Fred L Borgmann